

The Avalanche

O. PALMER, Publisher.
GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

BUSINESS IS QUIET.

TEMPORARY HESITATION PRODUCES SHRINKAGE.

Chicago Strikes Affect Many Industries and Wages of 50,000 Hands—Estimates on the Wheat Supply—Yaque Are Keeping Mexicans Busy.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: "A certain hesitancy in business has resulted in a shrinkage which in its volume is not unusual or unnatural at this season. Strikes in building trades or of machinists and others at Chicago affect many industries and the wages of 50,000 hands. A few great corporations are striving to hold prices, but that the needs of the consumers may prevent reaction and renew the rise of last year. Wide differences of opinion also exist regarding the effects of monetary action by Congress. Special causes are not needed to account for some pause after a year of unprecedented buying. That such trade may not continue at a pause was evident, and there is not the excessive speculation which threatened monetary trouble a year ago. Estimates of wheat in farmers' hands March 1-1914, 1,000,000 bushels, according to the American Agriculturist—do not indicate a lack of supply this year, for with 34,000,000 bushels in storable stocks, there is in sight nearly as much as a year ago, when foreign demands were extraordinary. Returns as to conditions of winter wheat are satisfactory. Failures last week were in amount \$2,482,827—manufacturing \$1,118,651 and trading \$2,161,111. Failures for the week have been 205 in the United States, against 132 last year, and 33 in Canada, against 37 last year."

INDIAN RETURNS TO BE SHOT.

Choctaw Carries Out the Tradition of His Tribe.

Choctaw honor was again vindicated when John Jacobson, a full-blood Choctaw Indian, returned to his home at Andalus, La., to be shot for a murder committed two years ago. Jacobson killed Nellie Hays, a full-blood Choctaw woman, in a drunken row, and he was sentenced to die for the crime. Before the date of execution was set he escaped, but his friends urged the judge to set the date and he would be there. This he refused to do, and the murderer ran free for two years. He came back, he said, to urge the judge to hurry up and set the date for his death. Sheriff Leflore of Jackson County took him in charge and placed him at jail at Pushmataha. Judge Everidge will set the date of his death in a few days.

INDIANS DOING MUCH DAMAGE.

Mexican Government Seems to Be Unable to Cope with Them.

The Indians have continued their depredations to an alarming degree, having ravaged a great stretch of territory and done no little damage to several hamlets along the road between Potom and Torin, Mexico. The Mexican troops do not seem to be able to cope with the situation, and it is manifest that more men will be needed to effectually suppress the uprising. The Indians have been dispersed into roving bands and are covering a great range of territory and doing much damage in the way of marauding movements. The Mexican troops are suspicious of the Indians laying traps to massacre the entire force and do not show much inclination to venture into the mountain fastnesses.

Nebraska to Sue Railroads.

Attorney General Smyth of Nebraska has decided to file damage suits for nearly \$1,500,000 in the Supreme Court against the Union Pacific, Missouri Pacific and the Great Northern Railroads under the maximum freight-rate law, the State holding that the failure of the roads to comply with the act has made them liable for heavy penalties.

Stanley Riggs Kills Himself.

Stanley Huntington Riggs, noted as a football player, committed suicide in a lonely cabin in the heart of Mexico. Stanley Riggs went to Mexico as a civil engineer two years ago with a party composed of Yale and Princeton graduates.

Price Placed at Ten Cents.

The board of directors of the Kansas penitentiary decided that the price of the product of the binding twine plant of the State penitentiary at Lansing will be 10 cents a pound, or as near that figure as the cost of production will permit.

Meat Bill Approved.

The Reichstag, by a vote of 160 to 99, passed on its second reading the committee's proposal prohibiting the importation of foreign meats, and American meats are thus barred out of Germany.

Four Killed in an Explosion.

The Smith River mine at Pompton, N. J., blew up and four persons were killed and a number more injured. A large portion of the works was wrecked and the loss will reach \$50,000.

Hanged for Wife Murder.

Anthony Hopkins was hanged at Beaumont, Texas, for wife murder in the presence of 5,000 people, who took up a collection of \$100 for his mother and sent it with his remains to her in Waco.

Nominated by Social Democrats.

Social Democrats, in session at Indianapolis, nominated Eugene V. Debs of Indiana for President and Job Harriman of California for Vice-President.

Orders Sale of a Railroad.

At Cincinnati Judge Taft issued a decree of foreclosure and order of sale of the Columbus, Sandusky and Hocking Railroad on the suit of the Metropolitan Trust Company of New York. The court fixed the upset price for the road at \$2,500,000.

Kruger Asks Peace.

President Kruger of the Transvaal republic has appealed to Lord Salisbury, English premier, for a cessation of hostilities, offering at length, by cable, the terms which he is willing to accept.

Man Falls Six Stories.

DeWitt Hurley, until recently teller of the Central State Bank of Des Moines, Iowa, fell from a window of the sixth story of the Youngman block to the sidewalk, and was instantly killed.

Hurley Was Sitting in the Window.

Hurley was sitting in the window and fainting. He was 35 years of age.

Poised When the Stand Fell.

Nearly thirty years ago, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company received similar injuries by the collapse of a small grand stand upon which they were being photographed in Chicago. The stand fell ten feet, throwing the occupants to the ground.

BIG FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.

Several Large Buildings Out—Loss \$500,000.

A fire entailing an estimated loss of over \$500,000 occurred in the retail dry goods district of Philadelphia. The conflagration originated in the engine room of Shoenman Brothers' dry goods and millinery store. The building was a six-story structure, situated on the corner of Arch and Cherry. The engine room was in the basement at the center of the structure. It is said that while the fire was being drawn from the furnaces sparks communicated with some waste paper and the blaze spread with astonishing rapidity to the upper floors. This was at 7:15 o'clock, and the employees had not yet arrived. A general alarm was sounded, but all efforts to save the building were fruitless, and it was leveled. The loss is placed at \$500,000. Marked dry goods stores adjoining, damaged by smoke and water, and their storehouses were completely gutted, entailing an estimated loss of \$300,000. The flames spread to the six-story building on Cherry street occupied by Meyerhoff Bros., manufacturers of women's ready-made clothing, and the Philadelphia Electric Equipment Company. Nothing was left of this place but the walls. The loss is placed at \$200,000. Several smaller buildings were more or less seriously damaged. About 100 men, women and children were thrown out of employment by the fire.

RISE IN PRICE OF DRUGS.

Result of Monopolies and the South.

To the alleged monopoly of the chemical trusts and in part to the conflict in South Africa is attributed the pronounced increase in the price of many standard drugs which have shown such a decided tendency to bound upward during the last few weeks. The chemical industry in a luxury in New York, and a similar condition of affairs is reported from other parts of the country. Cocaine, quinine, aqua ammonia, fluid extract of ergot and iodide of potassium, for all of which there is a large and constant demand, have all advanced in price since Feb. 1. Cocaine has doubled in value, while fluid extract of ergot, which a few weeks ago could be had for \$1.80, now brings \$4 a pound at retail. This is said to be due to a scarcity of dry ergot in South Africa, because of bad crops. The price of quinine has also doubled, which is due to the fact that the chemical is used so extensively in the making of lyddite shells that England has placed a ban upon its exportation. Other drugs have gone up in proportion.

HAD HIS WEALTH HIDDEN.

Aged Ohio Farmer on His Deathbed Reveals the Treasure.

Herzlieb Williams, an aged farmer in Troy township, Ohio, was taken suddenly ill, and thinking that he was going to die called his two sons, Carl and James, to his bedside and told them that if they would go to the old log house near by, in which the family formerly lived, they would find a great treasure. The sons followed the old man's directions and brought the treasure that had been hidden for many years to the house. The family sat about the bedside and counted out the money, and when they announced the amount the old man nodded his head in assent and died. Mr. Williams was a thrifty farmer and none of his relatives knew or even suspected that he had any money.

DRAW THE LINE ON DOG MEAT.

The Ojibwa Indians Will Not Attend Any More of the Iowa Feasts.

The Ojibwa and Iowa tribes of Indians in Indian Territory have broken off all friendly relations, and from this time on declare they will not visit with one another. It is all due to the eating of dog meat by the Iowa tribe. During their quarterly feasts the Iowa Indians slaughter hundreds of fat dogs and give the meat to their guests and ate it themselves. The Ojibwas have not been in the habit of eating dog meat, and said that they would not appear at the feast again. The Iowas replied that their fathers had feasted on dog meat and that they were true to the tradition of their fathers. So relations between the two bands were broken.

RAILWAY BRIDGE COLLAPSES.

Two Men Killed and One Injured at Alton, Ill.

The locomotive hauling the Chicago fast freight west on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, crashed through the steel bridge spanning Robinson street, Alton, Ill., and dragged the tender and one car with it. Two men were killed and one injured. The bridge that collapsed is one of the oldest on the Fort Wayne road and was supposed to have been sufficient to carry the heaviest locomotive of the modern type.

Indiana Mine Fatality.

A terrific blast exploded at a coal mine at Clinton, Ind., last night. Three miners were probably fatally burned and eight more badly injured. There were about eighty men in the mine when the accident occurred. Had it not been for W. F. Brown, the pit boss, all might have been killed. He cautioned the men to keep their faces close to the ground until assistance could be lowered to them. The men were at work 212 feet underground.

Prehistoric Relics from Mexico.

Prof. Marshall Saville, representing the American Museum of Natural History of New York, has left the City of Mexico for home, carrying many unique objects discovered by him during his recent archaeological work in the State of Oaxaca. The principal work of the professor was the uncovering of many ancient mounds, which were almost inaccessible, as they were overgrown with forests.

Detroit Bull Club Sold.

James D. Burns and George T. Stallings of Detroit have closed the purchase of the Detroit club of the American Baseball League. The price is \$12,000 cash. This will enable the divorced wife of George A. Vanderbilt, the late owner, to collect the alimony granted her, amounting to some \$8,000, and will end the further litigation of the matter.

Twenty Men Hurt.

Twenty men were injured in a collision between two freight trains of the Illinois Central Railroad at Junction "O," a side station near Broadview, Ill. Two of the injured were fatally hurt. The collision was the result of the breaking of a coupling pin in the middle of one of the trains.

Netherlands Is Held for Trial.

In New York Police Magistrate Mott has held Olga Netherlands, Hamilton Revelle, Marcus Mayer and Theodore Moss for trial on the charge of presenting an immoral play—"Sapho"—at the Waldorf Theatre. Bail was fixed at \$500 each.

Denise of A. C. Harmer.

Congressman Alfred C. Harmer, representative from the Fifth district of Pennsylvania, died at his home in Philadelphia, aged 75 years. Mr. Harmer was the oldest member of the lower branch of Congress.

One Hundred Men Killed.

More than 100 miners were cut down at the Red Ash coal mine, near Pine Creek, W. Va., in an explosion caused by fire damp.

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Wayne Bank Block Burns.

The Wayne bank, a two-story brick structure on Michigan avenue, Wayne, owned by Hoosie & Stellwagen, burned, causing a loss of about \$30,000, with less than \$15,000 insurance. It is believed a fire was of incendiary origin. The many floors were first discovered shortly after midnight on the second floor of D. M. Chambers' furniture store by persons who were returning home from a banquet. Wayne has no fire protection, and it was some little time before the bucket brigade got into action.

Dies in a Bathbath.

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The Hillsdale board of education has elected Prof. Samuel J. Gies of St. Cloud, superintendent of the Hillsdale schools for the next school year in place of W. L. Shurt, who has been superintendent for ten years past.

Gratiot and Isabella counties' independent telephone system has secured a pool representing 50 per cent of the stock as a precaution against a sale to the Erie company.

Clarence M. McCleave has been bound over to Circuit Court at Holland on the charge of passing forged checks. In default of \$500 bail he was taken to the county jail.

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Two Jackson men, Lew Simpson and Richard McQuillen, are trying to establish that the other is the bona fide owner of a horse named "The Lightning." The horse was shot and killed on which Receiver May has levied an assessment of \$355.

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AN ANGEL UNAWARES.

Suppose for every act of love and duty
An angel in the path of life should lay
A level road of sweet perfume and duty
Ah, even then, how bare would be the way!

Suppose for every kindly word unspoken,
For every fault which careless hands
Had done—
For every resolution made and broken,
A thorn beneath our erring feet had grown—

Ah! then the way would be one stretch of
anguish,
With only here and there a flower to
cheer.
Our feet would falter and our spirits
faint,
And life would be a burden hard to
bear.

But seldom are we outwardly rewarded
According to the deeds which we have
done.
"The pure in heart," are by the world
discarded;
The wicked harvest where the good
have sown.

And yet to every heart in darkness hid-
den
There comes an angel, whom we cannot
see.
Who strives to keep us from the paths
forbidden,
And in the narrow way where faith
may be.

His name is Conscience, and he brings us
roses—
Sweet roses, borrowed from the brow
of Peace.
Or thorns of which remorseful thought
reposes.
Regrets whose sharp tormentings never
cease.

Then let us strive temptation's storm to
weather.
Let every thought and every deed im-
prove,
Till Conscience finds no cruel thorns to
gather.
But crowns the soul with joy, and
peace, and love.
—Richardson Religious Herald.

Under Orchard Boughs.

On three days last,
Ashcroft, editor of
the popular *News-
Days Magazine*, has
been kept at home
by a wretched cold.
To-day he felt al-
most himself again,
but a whistling,
driving snowstorm,
a fierce blizzard,
such as sometimes
strikes New York in
the latter part of February, was
raging, and forbade him to venture out.
Tired with the unwelcome inaction of
the past two days, the editor's thoughts
turned to his work, and he began to
consider the make-up of the number
now in preparation.

"I'm not quite satisfied with the May
number," he murmured. "It's a little
heavy for May; there ought to be more
of the light and life and blossoming
of May in it. Now, those 'Pastelles'—
we haven't any really good spring
story in them."

The "Pastelles," a new department
of the magazine, were short sketches,
with hardly plot enough to be called
stories; sometimes a light character
study—a delicate word painting of
some aspect of nature.

Mr. Ashcroft took an art calendar
from the wall by his side and turned
the leaves until he came to the May
page. The picture was an excellent
copy of a water color painting. It re-
presented an orchard of apple trees, cov-
ered with their pink and white bloom.
A young girl stood under one of the
trees, leaning gracefully against the
gnarled trunk, her hands clasped loose-
ly before her. The whole was delica-
tely tinted, and seemed almost to carry
with it a faint fragrance of the bloss-
om-laden May.

His thought went back to the village
of Raynor, where he had spent a few
months years ago. Some college prank
had brought him into trouble with the
faculty, and he had been suspended
for four months. His father had sent
him to the little Connecticut village to
spend the time with an old college
classmate.

One of the village girls, shy little
Faith Thorne, had from the first little
captured his boyish fancy. As he came
to know her better, her influence in-
creased, and he said to himself that he
had found the pearl among women.

Brought up in a Quaker household, for
Faith was an orphan and lived with
her grandparents, a certain quaintness,
a child-like simplicity and directness,
made her seem unlike the other merry,
chattering country lasses.

Little by little he and Faith came to
be more and more to each other; the
wild rose bush in her cheeks deepened
when he was by, a sweet shyness made
the blue eyes drop before him.

who read might almost see the pretty
picture of the girl Faith, with her
pure, trusting eyes, and the boyish
lover who bent to kiss her cheek be-
neath the orchard boughs. Then the
story of the young lover who went
away, who grew older and sterner, who
struggled and won—and forgot.

After a while he took the pen and
wrote again.

A month later the editor was startled
to find among his personal mail at the
office an envelope bearing the postmark
of Raynor.

"My Dear Ford: I have read the
story, 'Under Orchard Boughs,' in the
November issue, and though you have
changed the names of the people and
of the place I am at once that it was
your story. But, dear, you should not
have ended it as you did. When Ford
Reynolds falls asleep in the little rail-
way station, where he is waiting for
his train, and the young girl comes in
with her armful of apple blossoms,
whose fragrance stealing into his
dreams, makes him fancy himself once
more in the old orchard; when he
wakes to find it but a dream, and
knows at last the one thing his life has
lacked in the midst of its seeming pros-
perity; when, seized with a sudden
heartbreak longing for a sight of the
little village; ah, Ford, why did you
not let him carry out his first impulse,
why did you make him hesitate and
turn his back on the hope he might
have made his own?"

"I cannot say more than this—if you
care to come to Raynor you will find
me waiting in the old orchard, and you
will find me still."

Ford Ashcroft crushed the letter in
his hand with a muttered imprecation.
"Coward!" he said to himself derelictly.
"Could I have found enough literary
material without dragging poor little
Faith into print? It was a dastardly
thing to do, but who would have
thought she would have seen the thing.
And now—"

He hastily put the letter in his pocket
as the sound of voices was heard in
the hall. The next moment the door was
thrown open and two children rushed
in, the older one exclaiming breath-
lessly, "Papa, papa, the carriage has
come, and mamma is ready, and you
said you'd go to wide wiv us to-day,
'cause it's my birthday, and I'm 6 years
old."

Ashcroft picked up the child and gave
her half a dozen kisses in honor
of the day. Then he went for a drive
with his wife and little ones, the
pathetic letter from Faith Thorne still
in his pocket.—Chicago Times-Herald.

The Land of Windmills.
Great flapping sails all over the land
make Holland look as if a flock of huge
sea birds were just settling upon it.
There are said to be at least 10,000 of
these windmills in Holland. They are
employed in sawing timber, beating
hemp, grinding corn and many other
kinds of work; but their principal use
is for pumping water from the low
lands into the canals and for guarding
against the inland freshets that so
often deluge the country. Many of the
windmills are quite simple affairs, but
some of the new ones are admirable.

They are so constructed that by an in-
genious contrivance they present their
fins or wings to the wind in precisely
the right direction to work with the
requisite power. In other words, the
millers may indulge in a quiet little
sleep and leave his mill to study the
winds and make the most of them
without his assistance.

If there is only a little wind every
sail will spread itself to make the most
of it; but if a big "blow" should come,
they will all shrink up and give it only
half a chance to move them. If you
want to see windmills in all their glory,
you must pay a visit to the land of
windmills.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

To Make Cloth Fireproof.
The American consul at Freiburg,
Germany, reports an interesting dis-
covery by German scientists, the ap-
plication of which will render cloth and
wood fireproof. The material used to
bring about this result is now being
manufactured by a German firm, and
great things are expected of it. The
American consul declares that he has
experimented with the discovery, and
has found that curtains, carpets, cloth-
ing, draperies and wood to which the
liquid has been applied refuse to yield
to flame. Even when cloth was covered
with kerosene and the oil burned out,
the fiber of the goods was intact. It is
claimed that with the use of this chemi-
cal application hotels may be made
absolutely fireproof, and that it will re-
duce fire risks on inside property very
greatly. The chemical is soluble, and
is therefore impracticable for outdoor
use. Garments, curtains or carpets that
pass through a laundering process
must be treated again. It is claimed,
however, that the scientists who have
worked out the process believe they can
render it waterproof in time.

The Umbrella Bird.
The umbrella bird, which has some
resemblance to a crow both in size and
plumage, is so called from a wide crest
which spreads out above its head like
a parasol. This crest is composed of
long slender feathers, rising from a
contractile skin on the top of the head.
The shafts are white, and the plumage
glossy blue, hair-like, and curved out-
ward at the tip. When the crest is laid
back the shafts from a compact white
mass sloping up from the top of the
head; and when fully spread the
feathers form a perfect, slightly elon-
gated dome, of a beautiful shining blue
color. The length of this dome from
front to back is about five inches, the
breadth four to four and a half inches.
This bird is a native of the islands of
the South American rivers, being seen
if ever seen on the mainland.

A Gigantic Moth.
The largest insect known to ento-
mologists is a Central American moth,
called the *Erebos Strix*, which expands
its wings from eleven to eighteen
inches.

Nature intended that people should
be unkindly; more twin babies are born
than twin calves.



FARMERS' CORNER.

"A good garden is half the farm,"
says one writer, and "the garden, fur-
nishes about one-half of our living in
summer, and its products are on the
table every day in winter," says an-
other, and neither of them is a vege-
tarian, though with a liking for fresh
vegetables and fruits in season. To
have a good garden the first requisite
is a piece of strong but well-drained
land, well manured. It should not be on a
northerly slope, if possible to get a
southerly or easterly slope. Certain
crops belong in a permanent garden,
and may be in one place for several
years. The pie plant, asparagus, the
bush fruits and grapes or peach trees
may be on the south side of a high
board fence at the north end of the
garden. In front of these the hotbeds
and cold frames may be permanent fix-
tures. Onions do well for many years
in the same locality, and so will celery
or carrots, though not so long. Sweet
corn may follow sweet corn for many
years in the same place, and so may
peas, but if it is desired to put in an-
other crop after peas or early corn, it
is not so easy to find the late crop that
grows well two years in the same lo-
cality. Cabbages and turnips certainly
will not. For this reason, when on a
farm, we preferred to move our gar-
den, or at least the peas, corn, vines
of all kinds, beans and all roots to a
new location every few years, or so
often that we did not have the same
place often more than once in five or six
years. Even for such crops as lettuce,
spinach, kale and dandelion a new lo-
cality is better than to continue them,
for many years, though sometimes they
can be changed about with other
crops. But with only a village lot one
must change about, or omit some crops
for a few years to get insects and
fungous diseases out of the soil. If
one will take this trouble, and will be
sure to obtain good seed from reliable
seedsmen, and put in work enough to
keep it in good condition, the garden
will not only furnish half the living for
the family, but sales of surplus from
it may help greatly in buying the other
half.—American Cultivator.

Hotbeds.
Whoever has a hotbed in which to
start early plants for setting in the
garden should also have a cold frame
into which he can transplant some of
them to give them more room and
harden them up a little before setting
them in the open ground. Of course
there are some who sow so late in the
hotbed that this is not necessary, but
they do not get their plants so well ad-
vanced, and gain but a week or two
when they should gain as many
months. Many are at a loss to know
when the temperature is right for sow-
ing seed in the hotbed. The best way
is to use a thermometer, as one fairly
good can be bought for a few cents.
Plants which require much heat to
germinate in open air, like tomatoes,
peppers, egg plants or melons, should
go in when the heat is at or about 90
degrees, while cabbages, cauliflowers
and other medium early plants will do
better if the glass does not mark above
80 degrees, and lettuce or radish would
sprout readily at 70 degrees.—Ex-
change.

Changing Plans.
The farmer who is continually chang-
ing his breeds of stock or his favorite
crops is very seldom a money-maker.
He is apt to find out that he made the
change just a little too late. He sees
some one making money on beef cattle,
and he abandons dairy farming to breed
fat cattle, only to learn that he ought to
have bred hogs. He tries hogs, and be-
comes convinced that sheep are more
profitable. He gives up a crop that he
knows how to grow to take up some
specialty that his neighbor has found
a profitable one, and a few years' ex-
perience teaches him how to grow it.
But it also teaches him that he could
have bought his experience much
cheaper. We do not mean that a man
should not change his breeds of stock,
his crops or his methods of farming,
but he will do well to make his changes
gradually, and not part with a good
thing every time he thinks any one else
has a better thing.—Exchange.

Care of Sheep.
There are two things that the sheep
need as much as any animals on the
farm. They need fresh air and they
need exercise. The sheep shed should
be so built that when it rains or snows
that the sheep cannot take their daily
run in the field, the windows or upper
half doors can be opened to allow the
fresh air to enter freely. If they have
not been shorn they will not feel the
cold, and only those who grow winter
clobs shear in the fall. But whenever
the weather is suitable they should
have a run out in the field, not a yard
bare of grass and filled with mud and
manure, but in an open field. Even in
a damp day they may be out for a
short time, but not long enough to get
their wool wet through. The uneasiness
of sheep when in a pasture shows their
need of exercise. They will not eat and
sleep as a cow does, and some of the
smaller breeds are almost as ready to
jump on a wall for the fun of jumping,
as goats are.

Killing Weeds.
When the land has been plowed in
the fall the farmer sometimes objects
to cultivating or cross-plowing the
field early in the season because the
hardy weeds put in an appearance al-
most before frost leaves the ground.
This is in favor of the farmer if he
will give the subject the proper view,
as he can destroy the weeds by loosen-
ing the soil, allowing warmth to enter,
thus forcing the weeds to germinate, so
as to destroy them before the seedling
of grain is done. The earlier the weeds
can be started the fewer there will be
later on if the cultivator is used fre-
quently after the weeds begin to ap-
pear.

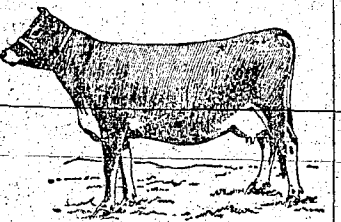
Excess of Plant Food.
It is sometimes claimed that a garden
becomes too rich, and that it produces
an enormous growth of vine, but but
little seeds or fruit. The difficulty is

that the garden contains an excess of
some kind of plant food. Rotate the
crops or make a garden in a new loca-
tion, growing corn, potatoes and cab-
bages successively on the old location,
when it may be used as a garden plot
again. It is doubtful, however, if a
garden can be too rich.

Sowing Their Land.
Two farmers living near Iola, Kan.,
have received a 40,000-pound car of
salt from Hutchinson, which they will
use on their farm. Both have exten-
sive farm interests which they look
after themselves, and they propose to
sow the salt with oats, wheat and flax,
on the theory that land so treated is
given the chemicals required by those
grains and in the belief that chicken
bugs will smother the fields. Some of their
unimpaired town friends have rather
hankering for the belief that wheat so
treated will grow leaves of salt-ripened
bread. At any rate the test is one
which will be watched with interest,
and the farmers may reap good re-
turns from the \$100 or more invested
in these gentlemen in an experiment.
—Abilene Chronicle.

Stretching Wire Fence.
I want to tell how I "piled out" wire
in an easy and expeditious manner.
Bored a hole in floor of small manure
shed and in it fitted a pin made of an
old fork handle. On this pin put a
buggy wheel, on the wheel inverted a
bushel basket and tied handles to
spokes to keep it in place. Put a coil
of wire over the basket, put one end
through end post and into ratchet,
hitched horse to sled and drove across
field, cut wire and stretched it up and
fastened in proper place on post. Went
back across field, stapling wire loosely
to each post, turned up the ratchet and
was ready for another wire. If on op-
posite side of fence from where wire
is wanted, a person following sled can
easily pass it over tops of post.—J. V.
McElhenie.

Jersey Cow.
The Jersey cow Tulip 7th was bred
by Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Hert-
fordshire, England, and has just been
purchased by Mr. W. Rockefeller, New
York. She is a beautiful cow, dark



TULIP 7TH.
fawn, calved in 1888; got by Spot's Lad
44389; dam Tulip by Sultan's Favorite.
She has been highly successful in the
show ring, among the prizes she has
won being second in a strong class at
the Royal Agricultural Society's show
at Birmingham.

Cure for Colic in Horses.
When a horse takes the colic, procure
some gunpowder containing saltpetre,
which acts upon the kidneys. Char-
coal and soda, which act on the stom-
ach and the intestines. To give relief
drench the horse with this; or, better,
take saltpetre, alum, charcoal and
lanthanum, equal parts, and make a
drench and give the horse. These are
all safe with the exception of the lan-
thanum. Be careful not to give over an
ounce of the lanthanum. Keep horse
well blanketed and in good warm sta-
ble. See that he is not driven hard nor
overheated, as this will cause colic;
also, see that he has plenty of water,
but not too much, and feed.—H. A.
Cooley.

Well-Arranged Apiary.
A well-arranged apiary that is simple
and convenient is thus described. The
hives are placed diagonally in the row
which runs southeast and northwest,
so that in each pair of rows the hives
front east in one and south in the other,
making each alternate alley free from
bees to be used as a passageway for
placed around the hives. The rows are
worked seven feet apart on centers, and
the hives four feet on centers. The
hives are so placed that a line drawn
from the rear of the first one will touch
the front of that immediately behind it.
There is one wide alley—crosswise
through the center and in a large
apiary more alleys would be advisa-
ble.

Clover Meal.
Feed grinders are now made to grind
clover, the result being clover meal.
As food for calves it has been found
excellent, the meal being sealed at
night and allowed to remain until
morning. For ducks, geese and chick-
ens, when mixed with ground grain, it
serves as a nutritious diet and adds
greatly to the value of the whole. As
an addition to the food of young pigs
it has given excellent results. When
sealed the clover meal swells, be-
comes soft and is very palatable. It is
not a substitute for clover hay for
adults, however, but should be used
where ground grain is made a portion
of the diet for young stock.

Overworking Boys.
I once knew a farmer who had four
sons. They all left him and the farm
before they were 18 because they were
overworked, and now the old man is
overworked, being left alone to run the
farm. He threatens to disinherit them
for leaving him in a time when he
needed them so badly, but they are very
indifferent to his plans, for they are all
doing well and getting along very nicely.
When a boy knows more than a
mule he knows when he is overworked.
A mule knows that much, and a son
ought to be better than a mule.—Home-
stead Farm Furrows.

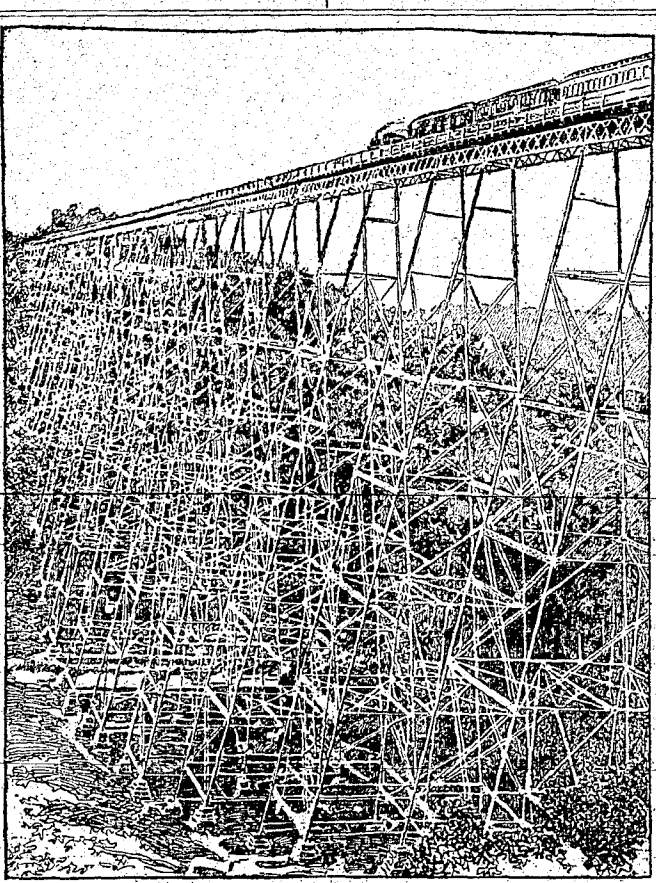
Green Peas.
Green peas can be planted early, and
successive crops may be grown. For
an early supply use the dwarf varie-
ties, as they need no supports, but they
do not afford but one or two pickings.
For the later crops the tall kinds
should be used, and they will give bet-
ter results, if supported with sticks or
wire. Make the ground deep and fine,
and use manure liberally if good crops
are expected.

To Cure a Kicking Cow.
When milking set your head tight in
her flank against her hip bone. When
she gets ready to kick, raising her foot,
push her over with your head; this will
toss her off her balance and make her
put her feet down. This will soon cure
her, unless she is a born kicker. In
that case, fatten and sell her to the
butcher.—G. Cameron.

VIADUCT TO BE TAKEN DOWN.

Immense Work of Engineering in
Pennsylvania Will Be Destroyed.
It is authoritatively stated that the
famous Kinzua viaduct, the gigantic
iron girder and trestle bridge in Mc-
Kenzie County, Pennsylvania, south of
Bradford, is to be replaced at an early
date by a new and wholly different
structure. Work on it was begun on
May 5, 1882, and it was completed and
opened for traffic less than four months
later, on Aug. 20, 1882. It is 301 feet
high at the highest point and until
the completion of the Garabit viaduct
was the highest bridge in the world.
The Garabit spans the Truyere in the
south of France, is 1,849 feet long and
at the highest point the rail level is
401 feet above the river. It was de-
signed by M. Eiffel, builder of the fam-
ous tower, and was completed in 1884.

The Kinzua bridge is 2,060 feet long.
Its completion gave to the New York,
Lake Erie and Western Railroad direct
communication with the coal fields of
Western Pennsylvania. The Buf-
falo, Rochester and Pittsburgh has a
traffic arrangement with the Erie for
the use of the bridge. The valley of
the Kinzua, which this great trestle
spans, is fifteen miles south of Brad-
ford and one of the wildest regions yet
left in Western Pennsylvania. Until
recently, perhaps even yet, bear were
plentiful and deer occasionally found
in this valley. The Kinzua viaduct



GREAT KINZUA VIADUCT, 300 FEET HIGH, TO BE TAKEN DOWN.

has been a point of excursion and an
object of curiosity for sight seers ever
since it was built. Gen. Grant was
taken there on one occasion.

GREAT COKE AND COAL YEAR.

Tremendous Output of Both Expected
in Western Pennsylvania in 1900.
This year will witness the greatest
era in the coke and coal regions of
Western Pennsylvania in their history.
In the Connellsville coke region new
ovens will be built than in any
previous year, and the coke production
will be increased fully 20 per cent.
There are now projected and in the
course of erection more than 2,000 new
ovens, which will be put in operation
by the middle of the coming summer,
which will run the total of the coke
region up to 21,000 ovens. At the be-
ginning of the present year there were
in operation in the region 18,900 ovens.
During the past twelve months the
price of coke has nearly doubled, and
the demand to-day greatly exceeds the
production. At the present price, \$3,
the business is most profitable. Two
years ago coke was selling for \$1 a ton.
The production of the coke region for
1897 was 8,500,000 tons, while during
the year 1899 9,529,000 tons was ship-
ped from the Connellsville region. The
1897 product was valued at \$14,000,000,
while that of last year represented a
value of \$29,000,000. The enlarged ca-
pacity will increase the product for
1900 to about 13,000,000 tons, with a
value of nearly \$39,000,000.

Just now there is a famine in coke.
The famine is not acute because coke
can be had for immediate delivery, but
only in small quantities. Coke makers
are just now getting \$3 a ton for fur-
nace coke and \$3.25 for foundry coke.
Western Pennsylvania coke is now
bringing \$5.90 at Cincinnati and \$6.50
at St. Louis. All kinds of coal have
greatly advanced in price, and to-day
there is not an idle mine in all Western
Pennsylvania. In many cases the
wages of the miners have been ad-
vanced greatly. The coal famine has
induced many large Pittsburgh consum-
ers to buy up coal lands, and many new
mines will be opened soon. A large syn-
dicate, formed of Pittsburgh consumers,
has obtained control of more than
1,000,000 acres of rich coal lands
around the city, and will operate mines
to supply their manufacturing plants.

MYSTERY OF THE MAINSPRING.

Some Breakages Not Yet Understood
Despite Much Investigation.
Despite the investigations regarding
the structure of mainsprings and the
efforts to improve them, despite the ex-
perimentation and theorizing on the
subject, some of the causes of the
breaking of mainsprings remain an un-
solved mystery. Many, indeed, are the
known causes responsible for breaking,
such as faulty construction or temper-
ing, careless handling, leading to the
formation of rust and poor fitting, but
after all these, which are recognized
have been eliminated there still re-
mains the fact well known to watch-
makers that the best springs will, in
spite of the most careful handling and
proper adjustment, unexpectedly
break, sometimes in a number of
places. It will thus happen that of two
springs made at the same time by the
same process, of the same material,
tempered in the same way and handled

with the same care, one may last for
years, while the other may break after
two weeks' use, or even while being
placed in the barrel.

When it is considered that the spring
is but from .008 to .009 of an inch in
thickness; that the material must be
subjected to a process which shall give
it a high state of elasticity, and at the
same time enable it to do its prescribed
work for years, a slight molecular
disarrangement in its structure may be
expected to occur from causes too in-
significant for observation.

Many jewelers state that it is their
experience that they have many more
mainsprings to repair after a warm,
humid day than at any other time.
Others believe the breaking to be due
to electric disturbances, stating that
after an electrical storm they find that
many of their customers bring their
watches to them for repair. The sud-
den cooling and consequent contraction
of the tightly wound mainspring,
caused by the removal of the watch
from the body on a cool night following
a warm day, is believed by some to ac-
count, in a measure, for the accidents
mentioned. So far, however, no en-
tirely satisfactory explanation has
been suggested. The only conclusion
to be drawn from the acknowledged
facts of the case is that it is not safe
for the watchmaker to infer, merely
from the breaking of a mainspring,
that it is of an inferior grade, nor for
his customer to believe the watchmak-

er deficient in skill because the main-
spring of his timepiece has snapped
shortly after being replaced.

Baggage Allowed a Cavalry Officer.
In the war in South Africa a Brit-
ish mounted officer knows exactly
what he may carry. In his pockets or
haversack or slung on a belt he is re-
stricted to a whistle, compass, note-
book, water bottle, clasp knife, besides
sword, pistol and ammunition. On this
horse, attached to the saddle, are a
spare shoe, case with nails, nosebag,
pickering ropes and pegs, collar, mess
tin, field glass and in a pair of wallets
an emergency ration, tin of vaseline,
underlinen (not exceeding two pounds),
knife, fork, spoon, comb, toothbrush,
shaving brush, nightgown, field cap,
towel and soap, drinking cup, map of
country and a box of matches. All these
articles must not, with saddle and
bridle, exceed 7 1/2 pounds in weight.
Carried in the regimental transport
each mounted officer is restricted to 25
pounds of baggage, which must be packed
in bed valise, and includes change of
clothing and linen, boots and puttees,
canvases shoes, buckle, lantern and
writing portfolio, camp kettle, two
plates and pepper and salt pots.

Pope Leo's Graceful Act.
Pope Leo was able to show deference
to an older man than himself at the
celebration of his coronation. Car-
dinal Martini, who is 92 years of age
and the senior Cardinal in length of
service, having been Cardinal deacon
for fifty years, had himself carried to
the Vatican, but was unable, after the
Pope's address, to join in the de-
file past the throne. The Pope, noticing
this, stepped down from his throne and
walking to Cardinal Martini wished him
many more years of life.

The Morals of Ants.
Sir John Lubbock has gone to the ant
again, and if he keeps up his visits and
others imitate him that interesting in-
sect will become useless for Sunday
school purposes. Sir John succeeded
in getting fifty ants helplessly drunk
and then placed them outside an ant
hill. The sober ants came out, picked
up their friends, and put them to bed
to sleep off the effects of Sir John's
liquor; the strangers, however, they
sternly rolled over into the ditch.

A Reformer.
Mrs. Cornerblower—I reckon our Hen-
nery has joined the law and order
league at Yale.
Mr. Cornerblower—Why do you think
that?
Mrs. Cornerblower—Why, he writes
that he's helped to break up four
shows at the opera house this week.
Theater's is very pernicious
things, you know.—Judge.

Different ways: "They sat and held
hands all the evening." "How silly!"
"Oh, I don't know. You have to in-
whist."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

The hostess—I want you to meet Mr.
Cawker. So interesting, you know.
He believes in nothing. The blase one
—What enthusiasm!—Life.

Men are so scarce that a man who
talks of getting divorce can always
find women sympathizers.

CURRENT COMMENT.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.
By the construction of the Nicaragua
canal the marine distance from New
York to San Francisco would be reduced
by 10,000 miles; to Hong Kong, China,
by 4,000 miles; to Yokohama, Japan, 7,
000 miles; to Melbourne, Australia, 2,000
miles; to Sandwich Islands, 8,000, and to
Valparaiso, Chili, 5,000. The marine dis-
tance from New Orleans to San Fran-
cisco would likewise be diminished by 11,
000 miles; from Liverpool to San Fran-
cisco, 7,000 miles; to Hong Kong, 1,100
miles; to Yokohama, 4,000, and to the
Sandwich Islands, 5,000. The voyage



John Bull—Dig away, Uncle! I'm perfectly satisfied.—Chicago Times-Herald.

from New York to the eastern entrance
of the canal is 2,021 miles, and from San
Francisco to the western entrance, 2,776
miles.

Facts About the Canal.
Total cost of canal (estimated), \$125,000,000
Total distance from ocean to ocean, 169.4 miles
Length of proposed ditch, 169.4 miles
Length of natural waterway, 132 miles
Proposed width of canal, 200 feet
Proposed depth of canal, 30 feet
Quantity of earth to be exca-
vated and dredged, 125,000,000 cubic yards
Excavation proper, 29,907,000 cubic yards
Highest elevation of canal from
level of sea, 110 feet
Distance saved for ships going
from coast to coast, 10,000 miles
Time saved at warship's rate
of sailing, 42 days
Increase in annual tonnage, 16,000,000 tons
Distance from New York, 2,000 miles
Distance from San Francisco, 2,776 miles
Distance from Philadelphia, 3,000 miles
Distance from Honolulu, 4,200 miles
Time required for construction, six years

History of the Project.
1805—Alexander von Humboldt, the fa-
mous scientist, decided the canal to be
feasible.
1825—Congress of the United States of
Central America decreed the digging of the
canal.
1826—Henry Clay, Secretary of State, or-
dered the route examined.
1830—Senate of the United States voted
favorably for it. President Jackson ap-
pointed an agent to examine it.
1838—Nicaraguan Government contracted
for the canal construction, but the con-
cession lapsed.
1849—Cornelius Vanderbilt ran an overland
route by wagon and boat.
1850—Neutrality of Nicaragua waterways
guaranteed by Clayton-Bulwer treaty.
1851—United States company organized by
Cornelius Vanderbilt.
1857—Rear Admiral Davis visited the United
States and the canal.
1876—Report made to the President by a
Nicaraguan commission that the canal
could be built for \$100,000,000.
1880—Work actually begun at Greytown.
1882—United States Senate passed a bill
appropriating \$70,000,000 for the canal. Did
not pass the House of Representatives.
1883—Commission appointed, headed by
Rear Admiral Davis.
1889—Commission reports in the strongest
terms in favor of the construction of the
canal. Treaty signed between Clayton-Bul-
wer agreement signed and sent to the
Senate.

CENSUS OF 1900.
A writer in the Washington Post
makes an interesting estimate as to what
the forthcoming census figures will show.
The population, he says, has never failed
to double in thirty years. The value of
property may be questioned, but the aver-
age results would be the same. It is
considered that the value of property in
cities in twenty years, which is only 3 1/2
per cent interest compounded. The as-
sessed

Franklin House DETROIT
COR. BEDFORD AND FARM AVE. MICH.

The Avalanche.

THURSDAY, MAR. 15, 1900.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Fred Emerson Brooks to-morrow night. Big time.

Judge Coventry sold his team Monday to Geo. Langevin.

Muresco is the best Wall Finish in the market. Sold by Colter & Co.

Pay your subscription and subscribe for the Household.

W. Fairbairn brought in two fine red fox pelts and one silver gray that was a beauty.

Peninsular Stoves and Ranges guaranteed the best. Sold by A. KRAUS.

A boy baby came to live with Mr. and Mrs. Will Vailled, in Maple Forest, last week, Tuesday.

Subscribe for the "Avalanche" and "The Household." Only \$1.25 per year.

T. A. Carney and wife were called to Bay City, Monday, by the death of his sister-in-law.

Chris. Ackerman caught a block from the boiling saw in the mill one day last week, and broke a rib.

The music produced by Mr. W. A. Fay, and illustrated by colored pictures will please all. 21st and 22nd.

Abe Joseph returned from the hospital at Detroit, Monday afternoon, happily recovered.

Get your supper at W. R. C. hall this evening, given by the Ladies' Aid society of the Presbyterian church.

The mercury dropped from 28° above zero Sunday, to 14° below during the night.

Go and see the Edison Cinematograph at the opera house, 21st and 22nd, 10 and 15 cents.

The New York Edison Exhibition and Specialty Co. will be at the opera house 21st and 22nd. First class in every particular.

Hair-dressing and shampooing. Also switches made to order. Prices reasonable. Satisfaction guaranteed. feb22-tf Miss EDITH BALLARD.

Meetings preparatory to the coming of Mr. Morey will begin in the Methodist and Presbyterian churches next Tuesday evening.

Friday evening, March 16, Brooks will give the fourth entertainment of the lecture course. Hear him by all means.

The poet Brooks brought down the house, big as it was, estimated at 25,000.—Boston Herald.—Grayling March 16th.

The Presbyterian Aid society will give a 15-cent supper at the W. R. C. hall on Thursday, March 15. Hoped that all will turn out.

Fred Emerson Brooks held the audience, and the audience held him. Chickering hall was well filled, and everyone applauded.—N. Y. Herald.

Miss Althea McIntyre came up from her school at Rosecommon, Friday evening, to spend Sunday with the family.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Hanson went to Mt. Clemens last week, to see if the waters of those famous springs would exercise his rheumatism.

Last season was a poor one in this vicinity for secure seed corn. Farmers should watch out and get perfect seed in time for planting.

Crawford Hile No. 890 will hold their next regular review March 16, at 6:30 sharp, one hour earlier on account of lecture at opera house.

J. Leahy, an expert optician of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., has arranged to visit Grayling every sixty days. His first visit is March 27 and 28. Office with Dr. Insley. 1w

Orders for parts of all kinds, and for all kinds of Sewing Machines will have special attention at J. W. Sorenson's. He also keeps a good assortment of Machine Needles

N. Michelson bought seventy head of Shorthorn cattle at the big farm of Wells, Stone & Co., at Gladwin, last week, and drove them to his Houghton Lake Farm.

Though potatoes are high and will be higher before planting, do not plant small, run out tubers. Get the best for seed. Plant less ground and secure a better crop.

J. W. Sorenson is agent for the sale of the best Sewing Machines in the market. Machines guaranteed. Call and examine machines, and get prices.

Ex-Supervisor Wakeley came into town, Monday, with six big wildcat heads. He is a mighty hunter, and gets there just the same as though he had two arms.

The little folks' sleighride, Saturday, came near having an accident in the collision of two of the teams, one of which got too gay after leaving its load at the church. One little boy got quite a cut on his cheek, but it is not thought to be serious.

The flagrant violation of the liquor law in this village last Sunday will result to prosecution, and it is hoped a good lesson will be well learned.

Mr. Will Johnson and Miss Buck, of Maple Forest, were married a week or two ago, but just where, when or by whom we are not informed. We wish them joy just the same.

There was a pleasant birthday party given Monday evening at John Olson's in honor of the 18th birthday day of his daughter Augusta. An enjoyable time for the thirty guests.

Comrade Chalker came down, Saturday, to attend the regular meeting of the G. A. R. Post, and incidentally to partake of the banquet given by the W. R. C. in the afternoon.

At circuit court last week a man petitioned for his full citizenship papers. He could neither read nor speak English and Judge Conline refused to admit him to citizenship.—Oscoda Press.

Go to the Klondike 21st and 22nd, with Edison's Cinematograph. The pictures are fine and you can see the great Spanish bull fight on the road. Moving pictures.

Thirteen members of the K. O. T. M. drove over to Lewiston Saturday and made fourteen Sir Knights in that village. All express themselves more than pleased with their fraternal treatment.

Six members were added to the W. R. C. Saturday, after which a sumptuous banquet was given by their friends. This grand organization is appreciated by our citizens as practically the only society here attending to practical charity.

Mrs. S. Hempstead wishes to announce to the ladies of Grayling that she has on hand for sale a complete line of hair goods and ladies' toilet articles which she will be pleased to show to any one at her home on Cedar Street. feb15

In sending his renewal subscription, last week, Comrade E. Wyckoff, now of Grand Traverse, says: "I welcome the 'Avalanche' every week, and congratulate your Post of the G. A. R. and the W. R. C. on the good success you have had in getting the debt off your hands."

About fifty of our little folks, members of the Junior Society of C. E., had a jolly sleigh ride around town, Saturday, ending with a picnic supper in the basement of the church. Judging by the cheers and waving of hats and handkerchiefs it was a most enjoyable time.

Attention K. O. T. M.!! Every member is requested to be present next Saturday evening to commemorate the anniversary of the time when our tent received its 100th member—and to honor Lieut. Com. Devere Hall, who will be with us on that occasion.

Any person troubled with headache, dizziness, weak eyes or failing vision can find a remedy by wearing specially ground glasses. Call at Dr. Insley's office March 27 and 28, and consult J. Leahy, the expert optician, who comes prepared to fit any eyes that can be fitted. Fitting children's eyes a specialty. 2w

The annual township election is near at hand. Have you canvassed the situation in your mind and decided who you think is best fitted for the several offices to be filled. If not, do so now, and talk with your neighbors, and not wait till you get to the caucus, and then pick up some one who may want the place, though they may be entirely unfit for it. Select the best men, and then support them, and get our municipal business on a good business basis.

It is time that every farmer knows just what he will plant this spring, and should be sure that his seed will be ready, and it should be the best. There is an annual loss of millions of dollars to farmers from planting inferior seed. Many are in the habit of waiting until they are ready to plant before securing what they want, and then planting what they can get most conveniently. We shall send a club order for seed, that can not be had in our market, as we have for several years, and the larger the order the better the price by saving of freight. Look over your catalogues, decide what you want, and come and see us.

Circuit Court. Judge Sharpe opened court on Tuesday for the special term, and on call of the calendar the case of Rasmusson vs. Rasmusson, trespass, was reported settled out of court.

Leighton vs. Judge, assault, was continued by stipulation. Township of South Branch vs. Head et al, was tried by a jury, who were directed by the Court to deliver a verdict for the plaintiff for \$111.20.

LaFave vs. LaFave, divorce, decree granted. Reaton vs. Beaton, divorce, decree granted.

The petition of Emma Hudley for vacation of part of village plat was allowed.

The usual decree was given in the tax cases and court adjourned this morning.

Ralston
Breakfast Food

One cup cooks enough for five people

One cup RALSTON BREAKFAST FOOD and 6 cups of boiling water—cost 3c.—will make a delicious breakfast in five minutes for five persons.

FOR SALE BY **Claggett & Blair.**

Notice of Teachers' Examination. Teachers' examination will be held at the school house Thursday and Friday, March 30 and 31. FLORA M. MARVIN, Com.

Banker Route a Robber. J. R. Garrison, cashier of the bank of Thornville, Ohio, had been robbed of health by a serious lung trouble until he tried Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption. Then he wrote: "It is the best medicine I ever used for a severe cold or a bad case of lung trouble. I always keep a bottle on hand." Don't suffer with coughs, colds, or any throat, chest or lung trouble when you can be cured so easily. Only 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Fournier's drug store.

Republican Caucus. Notice is hereby given that a caucus of the Republican voters of Grayling township will be held at the Court House, on Monday evening, March 26th, 1900, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of nominating a township ticket, to elect delegates to the county convention and to transact such other business as may come before. By order of township committee. Dated, March 13th, 1900. R. D. CONNINE, CHAIRMAN. JOHN C. HANSON, Sec'y.

A Fiendish Attack. An attack was lately made on C. F. Collier of Cherokee, Iowa, that nearly proved fatal. It came through his kidneys. His back got so lame he could not stoop without great pain nor sit in a chair except propped by cushions. No remedy helped him until he tried Electric Bitters which effected such a wonderful change that he writes he feels like a new man. This marvelous medicine cures backache and kidney trouble, purifies the blood and builds up your health. Only 50c at Fournier's drug store.

Democratic-Peoples Union - Silver Caucus. There will be a Democratic-Peoples Union-Silver Caucus at the town hall in the township of Grayling, on Monday evening, March 26th, 1900, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of placing in nomination a township ticket, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before it. There will be important business to attend to and a large attendance is desired. By order of Com. C. O. McCULLOUGH, A. E. NEWMAN, WM. WHEELER.

He Fooled the Surgeons. All doctors told Beniek Hamilton, of West Jefferson, O., after suffering 18 months from renal fistula, he would die unless a co-ly operation was performed; but he cured himself with Bucklen's Arnica Salve, the best in the world. Surest pile cure on earth. 25c a box at Fournier's drug store.

What's Your Face Worth? Sometimes a fortune, but never, if you have a sallow complexion, a jaundiced look, moth patches and blotches on the skin all signs of Liver Trouble. Dr. King's New Life Pills give clear skin, rosy cheeks, rich complexion. Only 25c at Fournier's drug store.

CLAGGETT & BLAIR
—ARE—
Headquarters for
This Part of the Earth.

And don't you be the last person in the world to find out where the best goods are sold cheap. We have a complete line of Staple and Fancy Groceries, consisting of new Teas and Coffees, Pure Spices and Canned Goods. Their specialties are "Ye Old Fashioned Japan Tea" at 50 cents, Royal Java and Mocha at 35 cents; Ja-vo Blend, the best 25 cents coffee on earth; McArthur's Patent, the best flour in the city for bread; Pure Lard, Hams, Shoulders and Bacon. For the best of everything at fair figures go to **CLAGGETT & BLAIR.**

SYRUP OF WILD CHERRY
FOR ACUTE AND CHRONIC COUGHS & COLDS
BRONCHITIS, HOARSENESS, LOSS OF VOICE, Irritability of the Larynx and Fauces, And other Inflamed Conditions of the Lungs and Air Passages.

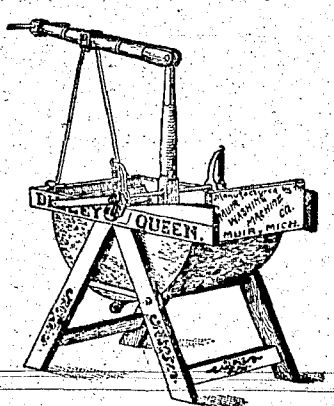
For sale by **L. FOURNIER**
C. C. WESCOTT
DENTIST.
GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.
Office—Over Alexander's law office, on Michigan Avenue. Office hours—3 to 12 a. m., and 2 to 5 p. m.

W. B. FLYNN, Dentist
WEST BRANCH, MICH.

WILL make regular trips to Grayling the 10th of each month, remaining for three days. Office with Dr. Insley.

Dilley Queen

Washing Machine, Cloth Wringer and Drying Bars.



Maple Sugar and Fruit Evaporators, Sap Pails and Spiles.

"Sunlight Gas Generators",

For Lighting Hotels, Public Buildings and private Residences.

The above goods are the best and latest improved on the market. Testimonials on application.

M. S. DILLEY & CO.,
FREDERIC, MICH.

Room! Room!

We must make room for our **New Spring Stock,**

and to do so we offer our entire stock for less money than it can be bought for anywhere else. Below we will give you a few items:

Prints, worth 5, 6, and 7c, for	5c	Men's all wool Pants,	\$1.25
Brown Cotton, worth 6c & 7c,	5c	Men's Merino Under Shirts,	10c
Percales, 36 inches, for	8c	Men's Black Rib Overalls,	37½c
Apron Gingham, only	5c	Men's Blue Overalls, from	35 to 45c
Cream Outing Flannel,	4c	Men's all wool \$6.00 Suits,	\$3.90
Toweling, worth 5c,	3½c	Men's Cashmere Suits, all	
Ladies Fleece Underwear,	2½c	wool, worth \$8.00, for	\$4.95
Childrens Fleece Underwear,	15c	Men's Beaver Overcoats,	\$3.65

We have no space to mention other Bargains, but every thing will go in proportion. Remember the place.

JOSEPH'S CASH STORE,
ALWAYS THE CHEAPEST.
(Opposite Bank.) Grayling, Michigan.

Sewing Machines.

Just received a lot of Sewing Machines direct from the factory, which we can sell from \$21.00 to \$35.00 each. Cheaper machines can be had to order.

Always on hand the best SEWING MACHINE OIL, guaranteed not to gum. Price 10 cents.

J. W. SORENSON.

Blumenthal
—AND—
Baumgart,
THE BIG
One Price For All Store

We are receiving daily new goods, in Dry Goods, Embroideries, Laces, Trimmings, Jets &c. Men's, Boys and Children's Clothing, and you will always find something new the next time you visit us, as we are adding constantly to our already large stock.

You will find trading with us profitable to you and our goods are marked low enough to defy competition. A trial will convince you to the correctness of our statement.

Respectfully Yours

BLUMENTHAL & BAUMGART.
THE BIG STORE. Grayling, Mich.

We carry a stock of goods valued at \$1,500,000.00. We receive from 10,000 to 25,000 letters every day.

We own and occupy the tallest mercantile building in the world. We have over 2,000,000 customers. Sixteen hundred clerks are constantly engaged filling out-of-town orders.

OUR GENERAL CATALOGUE is the book of the people—it quotes Wholesale Prices to Everybody, has over 1,000 pages, 15,000 illustrations, and 50,000 descriptions of articles with prices. It costs 72 cents to print and mail each copy. We want you to have one. SEND FIFTY CENTS to show your good faith, and we'll send you a copy FREE, with all charges prepaid.

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO. Michigan Ave. and Madison Street CHICAGO

CAMPAIGN OF 1900.

DEMOCRATS ARE UP AGAINST HARD POLITICAL KNOTS

Party Zealots This Year Can't Arouse the People with the Bugaboo of Threatened Financial Ruin—Confidence in Republican Party.

So far as debate is concerned in the political campaign of this year the money question does not promise to be conspicuous. Mr. Bryan will not say that the silver issue is to be dropped; none of the silver leaders will say that. The platform as repaired at Kansas City will include the financial plank of 1896 without material change. The platform will declare for free silver, the presidential candidate will stand for free silver, but the paramount issue of four years ago will be little in men's thoughts or speech in the campaign of 1900. The fact that a gold standard statute has been passed by Congress in the meanwhile will not provoke appeal to the people to arouse themselves to the work of saving their homes and families from overwhelming financial ruin. The campaign zealots of the Democratic party will let it all pass. Here and there an individual, unable to turn himself in four years, will look to free silver and to 1, but he will be apart from the crowd. The Populists, out on the prairie somewhere, may say to themselves that it is the second battle, and if doubt leaks in upon them they will cite the platform and point to Mr. Bryan. It is not proposed that the Populists, of either party label, shall receive more shock than the emergency requires. But the campaign will be on other grounds.

Such a political transition in four years is a remarkable thing to contemplate. But the Democratic directors will account for it. They will say that the country new questions that are of more urgent character. Yet if what they said in 1896 had truth back of it nothing could be more urgent than the salvation of our own people from the bondage of the gold standard. But some way or other that peril cannot be vitalized into a campaign issue of promise. The lurid character of the pictures of four years ago has faded out. The leaders know it, and the fact will be of quite common knowledge by the time the votes are in next fall. The Republican party has no reason to shrink from the responsibility of having wrought this transformation. If credit shall be assumed, however, credit will be denied. It will be said that tension has been taken off of the money issue by changed conditions that have come in spite of the gold standard and in spite of all the Republican party has done. But these changed conditions have come. This is the important fact. The fundamental proposition upon which the Democratic party placed itself four years ago was that a change for the better was impossible without opening the mints to the free and unlimited coinage of silver. The important fact is that the Democratic party was wrong. It may be that the discovery of new deposits of gold, conditions of war, and all that, afford such explanation as is needed. It must be admitted, however, that the Republican party was not wrong when it said that the evils complained of would disappear with a revival of the industries of the people, and that such revival was not dependent upon the devaluation of the money of the country. But never mind that. The Democratic party was wrong. The acknowledgment of that wrong is to be made this year by the substitution of silence for frenzy.

But the Democratic party will not be silent. It will not be as noisy as it was in 1896, but it will be as noisy as it can be. The country was going to the bad in 1896 in one direction, and it will be as positively asserted this year that it is going to the bad in another direction. The trouble this year will not be a new trouble. It will simply be a revival of a very old trouble. At the very beginning of the life of the Republican party it was charged that the success of the Republican party would mean the destruction of the Constitution. Now we are to have that old, old song again. Of course the Democratic party is not now standing for slavery; it is not standing for the extension of slavery under the Constitution to the Territories. Nevertheless it can see clearly that if the Republican party is longer trusted all the guarantees of the Constitution are to be broken down. The Democratic party now trembles for liberty. Singularly enough, however, the Democratic party will go back to the days of John C. Calhoun for its arguments.

The civil war demonstrated that the Constitution could not be set up as a bar to enlightened progress nor used as a shackle to the moral expansion of the people. The Democratic party will now find that the hands of this great nation in the discharge of its responsibilities under the treaty with Spain, nor to dwarf its powers in the contest for supremacy among the enlightened nations of the earth. The Constitution is no more than an expression of the will and purpose of the people of this country; it exists for the people and not the people for it. The assumption that the Constitution has power superior to the power of the people is a false assumption. Prior to the civil war the Democratic party was unwilling to trust the people; the Democratic party is repeating its record in that regard now.

It is an old pretension on the part of the Democratic party that this or that could not be done constitutionally. That party has never defended a wrong against the growing sense of the country that it has not sought to make the Constitution a breastwork for its error. The Republican party does not subordinate itself to the Democratic party in loyalty to the Constitution and the laws, but the Republican party anchors its confidence in the justice, intelligence and patriotism of the American people. The people of the acquisitions recently fallen to us have their highest guarantees in the character of our people and not in the letter of any law.

It is an old cry of the Democratic party against any step forward that "you can't do it." The alternative of present now is the abandonment of

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S APPEAL TO HIS COUNTRY.



There can be no imperialism. Those who fear are against it. Those who have faith in the republic are against it. So that there is universal abhorrence for it and unanimous opposition to it. Only difference is that those who do not agree with us have no confidence in the virtue or capacity or high purpose or good faith of this free people as a civilizing agency, while we believe that the century of free government which the American people have enjoyed has not rendered them faithless and irresolute, but has fitted them for the great task of lifting up and assisting to better conditions those distant peoples who have, through the issue of battle, become our wards. Let us fear not. There is no occasion for faint hearts, no excuse for regrets. Nations do not grow in strength and the cause of liberty and law is not advanced by the doing of easy things. The harder the task the greater will be the result, the benefit and the honor. To doubt our power to accomplish it is to lose faith in the soundness and strength of our popular institutions. The liberators will never become the oppressors. A self-governed people will never permit despotism in any government which they foster and defend.

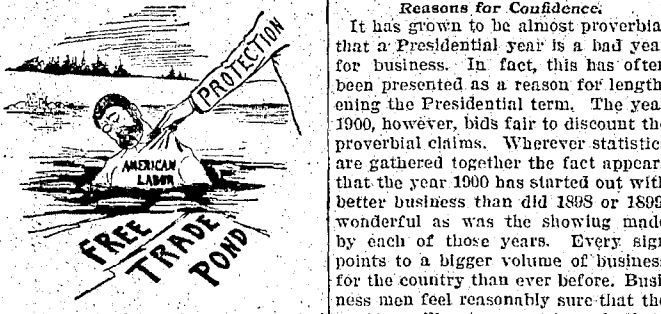
Gentlemen, we have the new era and cannot shift it. And, breaking up the camp of ease and indolence, let us bravely and hopefully and soberly continue the march of faithful service and falter not until the work is done. It is not possible that seventy-five millions of American freemen are unable to establish liberty and justice and good government in our new possessions. The burden is our opportunity. The opportunity is greater than the burden. May God give us strength to bear the one and wisdom so to embrace the other as to carry to our distant acquisitions the guarantees of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. From President's speech in New York.

Porto Rico, the abandonment of the Philippines, under claim of the utter impotence of the United States to do ought for them except through the debasement of our own people. If such contention is to be maintained, what follows? It follows that this nation is powerless to expand except at the peril of self destruction. It follows that it cannot employ its strength in the responsibilities of government outside of the equalities of the States comprising the Union, without inviting the annihilation of Republican institutions. If that contention has meaning back of it means that this nation has not the power of self preservation. Sioux City Journal.

Macrum and the Democrats. The absurdity of the average Democrat's view of statesmanship, says the Cleveland Leader, is illustrated by the party's attitude with respect to Macrum, the former consul at Pretoria, South African Republic. When it was first announced that Macrum was coming home that he had possibly deserted his post because of his sympathy with the Boers, or perhaps because of fear of personal injury, the Democrats were unsparing in their denunciation of him. Of course, he was then an official representing the Republican administration, and had been appointed by President McKinley. Denunciation of Macrum was denunciation of the administration which was responsible for him. It was good politics from the Democratic standpoint to make it appear that this Republican consul had shown the white feather in the face of danger and had deserted American interests when they were in jeopardy.

But when Macrum gave out his statement, attacking the administration and declaring that he had left his post because his official mail had been tampered with by a British censor, the Democrats changed front. Then they felt it to be their duty to defend the former consul who had been repudiated by the administration. He had given the Democrats a chance to manufacture a little cheap political capital, and they could not resist the temptation to take advantage of that opportunity. Without passing upon the case of Macrum it is impossible to close one's eyes to the inconsistency and absurdity of the course of the Democrats.

A Timely Rescue.



A Wornout Party. "A party is like a suit of clothes worn for man's protection, and when the party is worn out and ceases to protect him he ought to throw the party away and get a new party," said Col. Bryan in his Minneapolis speech. As the Democratic party is worn out and ceases to protect, a great many former members, most of them prominent in its councils, have taken the advice of the Colonel and candidate and got a new party, the Republican, which has given evidence of its ability to protect their interests. Tacoma (Wash.) Ledger.

The Kansas City Convention. When it was reported that Mr. Bryan had expressed a preference for the Kansas City as the place for holding the Democratic National Convention, all that was necessary to carry it thither was to verify the report. The fact that Kansas City was selected by a vote of 40 to 3 shows that the reported preference of

Mr. Bryan was understood. Some time ago a Democratic correspondent in Washington said that if the convention should go to Milwaukee the location would be regarded as equivalent to a decision to make imperialism the leading issue and to put silver in the background. On the contrary, if Kansas City were selected, it would mean that 16 to 1 would be the leading issue. One reason given for taking the convention to Kansas City is that the holding of it there will exert an influence to bring the State of Kansas back to the Bryan column. If that has affected the decision, it is an admission that the Bryan leaders have no expectation of swinging any State of the Northwest into the Bryan line. In other words, the Bryan National Committee has decided to fight in 1900 to hold the States that Bryan carried in 1896. That this is the purpose of the Bryan leaders is further verified by Bryanites calling the Populist National Convention in South Dakota, another State which has broken away from the fusionists since 1896. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

1898 and 1900. This is not the first time the Democrats have called a national convention for the 4th day of July. The Democratic Convention of 1898 was called for that day, and the two conventions promise to have some points of resemblance. The 1898 convention was the first national convention called after the civil war ended. We were in the midst of reconstruction. It was a more difficult problem than the war. The Democrats met in the guise of critics and malcontents. They declared the constitutional amendments, abolishing slavery, to be revolutionary, null and void. They raised the military bugaboo and aroused their belief that the Constitution was being violated. The Democrats in convention assembled in Kansas City will repeat much of this folly. They will declare in favor of running away from the obligations which the Spanish-American war imposed upon us. They will pretend to be seized with a great fear because the standing army has been increased, and they will repeat all their old-time charges about the violation of the Constitution, and it may be added confidently that their nominee this year will come no nearer election than Seymour did in 1868. Cedar Rapids Republican.

Reasons for Confidence. It has grown to be almost proverbial that a Presidential year is a bad year for business. In fact, this has often been presented as a reason for lengthening the Presidential term. The year 1900, however, bids fair to discount the proverbial claims. Wherever statistics are gathered together the fact appears that the year 1900 has started out with better business than did 1898 or 1899, wonderful as was the showing made by each of those years. Every sign points to a bigger volume of business for the country than ever before. Business men feel reasonably sure that the country will not consent to go back to the starvation days of Democratic tariff reform; they feel reasonably sure of the continuance of our present policy of giving protection to American industries. Therefore they have the confidence to go ahead. With protection as the established policy of the country, with no possible danger of its downfall, Presidential years, as well as all other years, will be years of national prosperity.

What Clark Ought to Do. Clark, the Cretaceous of Montana, evidently regards the necessary expenditure of upward of \$150,000 to secure his election to the United States Senate as a mere bagatelle. Yet his gifts of \$5,000 to members of the Montana Legislature after they had voted for him, though evidences of munificence, are rather suspicious. Mr. Clark ought to resign without delay and save the Senate the absolute necessity of expelling him. Philadelphia Record.

IMPERIALISM A HOAX.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY SO DECLARES IN A SPEECH.

Nation Will Not Shrink Its Responsibilities—Future of the Colonies, He Says, Is the People's Question—Denies Alliances with Other Nations.

"There can be no imperialism," said President McKinley, addressing the Ohio Society of New York city the other night. "Those who fear are against it," he added. "Those who have faith in the republic are against it. So that there is universal abhorrence for it and unanimous opposition to it."

The President was the guest of honor on the occasion of the fourteenth annual dinner of the society and his brief address, delivered informally, but large with significance in its references to current political developments, was the feature of the dinner. The reference quoted at the outset was delivered with the most fervid earnestness and it evoked the heartiest expressions of sympathy from the distinguished company present.

The list of speakers on the program included the President, Gov. Nash, Solicitor General of the United States John A. Richards, Lieut. Gov. Woodruff and James H. Hoyt. There were no fixed toasts, the speakers having subjects allotted to them as they were called upon.

Although President McKinley came with the understanding that he was not to be called upon for a formal speech, he agreed to speak briefly. Short as was his contribution to the evening's oratory, he discussed national issues authoritatively and forcefully, and it is doubtful if the President ever made an address in New York city that was more thoroughly effective.

His manner was quiet and impressive, but when he came to speak of imperialism his voice rang full and clear in the words: "There can be no imperialism."

Another important declaration of the President which was received with prolonged cheering was when he said with significant emphasis: "We are neither in alliance nor antagonism nor entanglement with any foreign power, but on terms of amity and cordiality with all."

When he resumed his seat it was only for a moment, for in the midst of the cheering the orchestra struck up "The Star-Spangled Banner," and he rose and stood, while, as a fitting climax to his speech, the whole gathering sang the anthem. President Southard of the society presided and began the speech-making by introducing President McKinley, who was greeted with great applause. He said:

Mr. Toastmaster and Gentlemen—I appreciate your welcome and thank you for the honor of being here. I have a good will. It is proper that I should say that the managing board of the Ohio Society has kept the promise made to me that I would not be expected or required to speak at this banquet. I shall not be guilty of reflecting on their good faith or breaking my own resolution not to speak if I indulge in some observations while expressing in the briefest manner the pleasure which I have in greeting my old friends of the Ohio colony in New York. There is a bond of close fellowship which unites Ohio people. Whithersoever they journey wherever they dwell, they cherish the tenderest sentiment for their mother State, and she in turn never fails of affectionate interest in her widely scattered children.

It has been some years since I was your guest. Much has happened in the meantime. We have had our blishest and our darkest days. But we have soon have legislative assurance of the continuance of the gold standard with which we measure our exchanges, and we have the open door in the far East through which to market our products. We are neither in alliance nor antagonism with any foreign power, but on terms of amity and cordiality with all. We buy from all of them and sell to all of them, and our sales exceeded our purchases in the last two years by over \$1,000,000,000.

Markets have been increased and mortgaged, and we have advanced. The public debt is decreasing. The country is well to do. Its people for the most part are happy and contented. They have good times and are on good terms with the nations of the world.

Talks of Peace and War.

There are unfortunately those among us, few in number, I am sure, who seem to thrive best under bad times, and who, in good times, are ever ready to practice or purpose on our part, and with fadeless honor to our arms.

I cannot forget the quick response of the people to the country's need, and the quarter of a million men who freely offered their lives to their country's service. It was an impressive spectacle of national strength. It demonstrated our mighty reserve power, and taught us that larger standing armies are unnecessary when every citizen is a "minute man" ready to join the ranks for national defense.

Out of the recent events have come to the United States grave trials and responsibilities. As it was the nation's war, so are its results the nation's problems. Its solution rests upon us all. It is too serious to stifle. It is too earnest for repose. We have no time for idleness. We must have no aspersions of motives by those who differ will contribute to that sober judgment so essential to right conclusions.

No political outcry can abrogate our duty of peace with Spain or otherwise from its solemn engagements. It is the people's question, and will be until its determination is written out in their enlightened verdict. We must choose between many doing and base desertion. It will never be the latter. It must be soberly settled in justice and good conscience, and it will be. Righteousness which exalts a nation must control in its solution.

No great emergency has arisen in this nation's history and progress which has not been met by the sovereign people with high courage, strength, and with unflinching fidelity to every honorable obligation. Patriotism can hold few of us against solemn public duty. We have seen this so often demonstrated in

the past as to mark unerringly what it will be in the future. The national sentiment and national conscience were never stronger or higher than now.

There has been a reunion of the people and most of our countrymen to country newly satisfied by common sacrifices. The followers of Grant and Lee have fought under the same flag and fallen for the same faith. Party lines have loosened and the ties of union have been strengthened. Sectionalism has disappeared and fraternity and union have been rooted in the hearts of the American people. Political passion has altogether subsided and patriotic glove with unextinguishable fervor in every home of the land. The flag has been sustained on distant seas and islands by the men of all parties and sections and creeds and races and nationalities, and its stars are only those of radiant hope to the remote peoples over whom it floats.

Abhorrence of Imperialism. There can be no imperialism. Those who fear it are against it. Those who have faith in the republic are against it. So that there is universal abhorrence for it and unanimous opposition to it. Our only difference is that those who do not agree with us have no confidence in the virtue or capacity or high purpose or good faith of this free people as a civilizing agent, while we believe that the century of free government which the American people have enjoyed has not rendered them faithless and irresolute, but has fitted them for the great task of lifting up and assisting to better conditions those distant peoples who have, through the issue of battle, become our wards. Let us fear not. There is no occasion for faint hearts, no excuse for regrets. Nations do not grow in strength and the cause of liberty and law is not advanced by the doing of easy things. The harder the task the greater will be the result, the benefit and the honor. To doubt our power to accomplish it is to lose faith in the soundness and strength of our popular institutions. The liberators will never become the oppressors. A self-governed people will never permit despotism in any government which they foster and defend.

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Gentlemen, we have the new era and cannot shift it. And, breaking up the camp of ease and indolence, let us bravely and hopefully and soberly continue the march of faithful service and falter not until the work is done. It is not possible that 75,000,000 of American freemen are unable to establish liberty and justice and good government in our new possessions. The burden is our opportunity. The opportunity is greater than the burden. May God give us strength to bear the one and wisdom so to embrace the other as to carry to our distant acquisitions the guarantees of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

At the conclusion of the President's speech the diners arose and cheered him vigorously. Gov. Nash, of Ohio, was next introduced. He spoke on the Governors of Ohio, going over the historical list, beginning with the first Governor of the Northwest territory. When he came to the name of McKinley there was again cheering for the President. Lieut. Gov. Woodruff responded to the toast, "The Empire State."

In response to repeated calls Gov. Roosevelt arose and spoke briefly. These three years that our President has been in the White House, Gov. Roosevelt said, have been three great years. President McKinley found the nation stumbling in some of the darkest days it had ever known in its history. He undertook to defend its honor at home and abroad, and every pledge that he made he has kept to the very letter. If you approve of what he has done for our finance, if you approve of his placing the flag where it never stood before, then stand by him in the future as you have in the past. I speak to you as Americans, and I ask you to stand with me when I tell the guest of the evening that New York stands to-day where it did four years ago. It stands behind President McKinley, as he works for the honorable solution of the problems that confront us abroad, so that our flag will be the symbol of honesty wherever it floats.

Following the dinner the President held an informal reception for about fifteen minutes and then retired. Getting "Even." Some people are philosophical enough to accept defeat gracefully; others nurse their wrath and waste much time in a mistaken effort to "get even." Of one of these latter a Chicago paper tells an amusing story.

A man came to a Chicago hotel for one day, and took his dinner outside with a friend. When he came to pay his bill he found himself charged with a day's board, dinner and all. He protested. The clerk tried to explain that the American plan was based strictly upon time, and that if he chose to eat elsewhere it was his own lookout, but the man would not be pacified.

He paid the bill under protest. Then he asked if dinner was still on, and was informed that it lasted until 9 in the evening.

"Then I'll go and tackle it!" he exclaimed. "I've eaten one dinner, but I'm going to get my money's worth out of this house, or perish in the attempt."

He rushed into one of the dining rooms, seized a bill of fare and ordered everything he could think of. When he finally got to the end of his tether the waiter handed him a check for \$4.10.

"What's that for?" he asked in surprise.

"Your dinner, sir."

"But I have already paid for my dinner in my bill," he protested. "I'm staying here on the American plan."

"Then you should have gone to the other dining room," said the waiter. "This is the European plan case."

The man paid the bill and walked out. His feelings must have been heavy, both in body and mind.

Training Master Tom. When dueling was in vogue, the expert use of the pistol formed a part of every young gentleman's training. One old and faithful servant adopted a practical method of teaching the young master to shoot.

He loaded the pistol, and told the youth how to hold it. Then old Master Tom stooped behind a low wall, twenty paces distant, and jumping up suddenly, cried, "Now, Master Tom! One, two, three, fire!" and bobbed down again before Master Tom had succeeded in hitting him.

After a week's practice, the lad had improved so much that he could put a bullet through the servant's hat.

"Well done, Master Tom," cried Master Tom, exultantly. "Tidy again. And if you can get the hand up a little quicker, maybe you can hit me in the shoulder."

When Strikers Were Hanged. Strikers were hanged in England less than 100 years ago.

MOST PECULIAR PEOPLE.

The Bicycle Has Nearly Emancipated the Parsi Women.

The most peculiar people of India are the Parsis, or "Parsees," meaning "Zoroastrians," who feed their dead to the vultures upon the Tower of Silence. They died to India from Persia when that land fell into the hands of the Arabs twelve centuries ago. Their men are the first very singular persons the traveler sees on board the ship which takes him to India, their singularity consisting in their long-sallow faces and large eyes, their shiny, patent-leather-looking, tubular hats and their long and ugly coats. They are most numerous in Bombay, but one meets them in other cities on the "Bombay side," and in Madras and Calcutta on the other shore. They are the richest natives of India, and have made and still make money in trade.

They are the only Indians, who, as a body, admire and cultivate Western progressive ideas, who treat their women fairly well (according to our ideas), and who permit their widows to marry again. Their first rule of life is, to practice benevolence, and no people do this more liberally. They maintain nearly two-score charitable institutions in Bombay alone. They are the only people in the world who do not smoke, and this is because they will not touch with fire, which is sacred in their belief. They never spit and they will not in any way contaminate the earth or water or defile the trees and flowers. That is why they destroy their dead without burning the bodies.

They have no beggars among them; they are monogamists; they are not caste-ridden (or rotten), like the Hindus; they acknowledge two classes—the priests and the people. They keep New Year day, not only as a religious feast day, but much as we do, as a day for general visiting. Their women are not imprisoned with their servants or otherwise degraded, but may be met anywhere and everywhere to the same extent as English women in India. So often are these women come, and so beautifully are they clad in such soft and exquisitely colored silks—that, as one writer says, "they appear as hours floating about the earth in silk balloons, with a ballast of necklaces, earrings and jewelry." It is no more than fair for the Parsi men to let this be as it is, for they are the ugliest men that travel upon this globe.

An English lady advised me to go and see the rich Parsi women riding bicycles on the road beside the sea at 4 o'clock of any afternoon. What an idea! The bicycle has so revolutionized young womanhood in England that men who return there after a short absence can not credit their senses as they note the change in the maidens and their home government.

What will it do—or not do—in India? Truly that modest-looking toy has worked as much of the change in this swift-boated century as many of our most important inventions. It has proved a steed which leaps the highest bars of prejudice, runs away with the deepest-rooted conventions—even outpaces the plums of women for their own emancipation. I try to fancy what it may do in India, but after all, it has only a few thousands of Parsis upon whom to work.—Harper's Magazine.

The Kentucky Mountaineers.

There are no more strikingly interesting people in America than these isolated mountaineers who make their homes generation after generation among the fastnesses of the eastern section of the dark and bloody ground.

The waves of civilization which sweep westward along the St. Lawrence, the Erie canal, and a dozen other routes seem to have found at this point in the Appalachians an insurmountable barrier and rolled back, leaving the descendants of the pioneers of a century and a half ago with many of the same habits and customs and traditions dear to the hearts of their forefathers.

A man who knows the whole country as a child does his first picture book to me that if any person took the trouble to go through a copy of Shakespeare and pick out all the obsolete words he would find nearly all of them in common use among these mountain folk. In their phraseology we find "help" for "help," "bit" for "it," and other words which, far from being corruptions, are the pure old Anglo-Saxon. Even their ballads are mementoes of ages gone by, and I know of one man who, after riding 200 miles through the mountains for the purpose, finally picked up, from hearing the women sing them, the full thirteen verses of an old Scotch ballad which proved to be identical with those recorded in a diary bearing the date 1655.—International Magazine.

The Kaiser Checked at Last. Kaiser Wilhelm, like King Canute, has found a check to his arbitrary power. He returned home hungry from an officer's smoking party recently and asked the Emperor for something to eat. She told him that the cook had gone to bed, and as neither dared to wake her, the Kaiser was obliged to go supperless. The Emperor now saves up a cold snack from dinner on the chance of the august appetite's awakening at night.

Female Postal Employees in England. The English postoffice employs not far short of 30,000 women, and it is probable that the largest number are employed in telegraphy, or in duties relating thereto. In London alone the number would appear to exceed 1,500, of whom no fewer than 1,000 are employed at the central telegraph office at St. Martin's-le-Grand.—Scottish American.

Judge Hawkins Was Severe. Justice Hawkins, of the English bench, once had to sentence an old swindler, and gave him seven years. The old rascal in the dock squirmed and whined: "Oh, my lord, I'll never live half the time." The judge took another look at him, and answered: "I don't think it is at all desirable that you should!"

It is not necessary to die to prove friendship; just refuse to tell all you know on a man.

Every time a boy looks at a gun, some woman screams.

Never argue with a barber.

His First Step. Judge: What was your first step in crime which led up to this charge for forgery? Prisoner: I baked the loaf of one of my father's friends and I badly posted it.

Her Point of View. He—How long should a man know a girl before proposing? She—That depends on his income.

Raised and Lowered. Steub—What was the cause of that young man's downfall? Penny—Raised salary.

Penalty—Raised salary? Penny—Not at all. You can be raised his salary check.

His First Step. Judge: What was your first step in crime which led up to this charge for forgery? Prisoner: I baked the loaf of one of my father's friends and I badly posted it.



STATE CAPITAL.

According to the reports filed with the Secretary of State, which are now very accurate and reliable, there were 33,150 deaths in Michigan during the year 1899, the increase over 1898 being 4,461. It is probable that 4,000 is about the actual increase, as the total reporting population for 1899 was slightly in excess of that of the previous year. The average death rate per 1,000 population in 1898 was 12.5 and in 1899, 14.1 per cent. The number of persons under 1 year of age dying during the past year was 3,140, or 0.4 per cent of the entire number. The number from 1 to 4 years of age was 2,432, and those over 65 years of age was 9,175, or 28.0 per cent. Pulmonary consumption carried away 1,925 persons and other forms of tuberculosis 651. The deaths from other diseases were as follows: Typhoid fever, 317; diphtheria, 207; group, 138; scarlet fever, 144; measles, 164; whooping cough, 271; pneumonia, 2,934; diarrheal diseases of persons under 5 years, 1,087; cerebro spinal meningitis, 890; influenza, 1,703; puerperal septicemia, 176; cancer, 1,282; violence, 1,604.

Auditor General Dix has been sending out blanks for the collection of taxes against telephone, telegraph and express companies in accordance with the new law passed by the last Legislature. Under the old law, which was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, telephone and telegraph companies were assessed the average rate of taxation in the State, which was computed to be something over 2 per cent upon the basis of the value of their property. Express companies paid 5 per cent of their gross earnings. The new law provides for a tax of 3 per cent upon the gross earnings of telephone and telegraph companies and a decrease of express company taxes, but on the whole there will be more taxes collected. The taxes are due on or before July 1, and when received will be credited to the specific tax fund.

The report of Michigan department, G. R., makes a gratifying showing. The report, which is for the last half of 1899, shows that at the close of that period there were in Michigan 382 posts with an aggregate membership of 15,102. The net loss during the period was 171. When it is considered that there is no young blood to be infused into the organization, the work of Commander Peeler and Adj. Pond in the direction of having all the veterans enrolled in the order is quite manifest. They predict further substantial increase during the present six months. Four years ago there were 373 posts and 10,769 members. Since then there has been a gain of nine posts, but a loss of 1,062 members. Of the latter 1,423 died, leaving a loss of only 230 from honorable discharges, transfers, etc.

The United States Supreme Court has granted a writ of certiorari in the case commenced by the State of Michigan against the Granite State Provident Association. The Court of Appeals decided that the assets of the association should be turned over to the general receiver of the association and held unconstitutional the Michigan law providing that the Michigan assets of the company should go to the Michigan shareholders. The action of the Supreme Court in granting the certiorari upon the recent argument of ex-Attorney General Maynard indicates a possible triumph for the Michigan creditors, of whom there are 3,000 holding claims aggregating in the neighborhood of \$70,000.

Attorney-General Oren has advised the Secretary of State that foreign building and loan associations doing business in Michigan are not included in the law of 1887 requiring the filing of building and loan associations from taxation. He holds that only the stock of associations incorporated in Michigan are exempt. The effect will be to place on the tax rolls all stock of associations of other States owned in Michigan.

The claims of soldiers of the Spanish war for relief provided for by an act passed at the special session of the legislature, making an appropriation of \$40,000 for the purpose, aggregate nearly \$80,000. The worst cases may receive about 75 per cent of their claims.

The 1899 compilation of the laws relative to the incorporation of cities of the fourth class has been delivered by the State printer to Secretary of State Stearns, and is now ready for distribution.

Notwithstanding the decrease in rates last year, the fire insurance companies will pay the State taxes on last year's business and retentive fees an estimated increase of \$25,000 over the amount collected last year.

The State board of corrections and charities has under inspection plans for new buildings for the home for feeble minded in Lapeer and the eastern asylum for the insane at Pontiac.

Secretary of State Stearns has issued a neat little pamphlet containing the laws relating to fraternal beneficiary societies.</

I Look 25 Years Younger

"I am now seventy-two years of age and my hair is as dark as it was twenty-five years ago. People say I look at least that much younger than I am. I would be entirely bald or snow-white if it were not for your Hair Vigor." — Mrs. Anna Lawrence, Chicago, Ill., Dec. 22, 1898.

Is Yours Snow-white?

There is no getting around such a testimonial as this. You can't read it over without being convinced. These persons do not misrepresent, for their testimonials are all unsolicited. Ayer's Hair Vigor restores color to gray hair every time. And it is a wonderful food to the hair, making it grow rich and heavy, and keeping it soft and glossy all the time. It is also an elegant dressing.

Write the Doctor
If you do not obtain all the benefits you desire from the use of the Vigor, write the Doctor about it. He will send you the right thing to do, and will send you his book on the Hair and Scalp if you request it. Address: Dr. J. C. Ayer, Lowell, Mass.

DO YOU COUGH?
DON'T DELAY
TAKE
KEMP'S BALSAM
THE BEST COUGH CURE

It cures Coughs, Croup, Sore Throat, Croup, Influenza, Whooping Cough, and all other ailments of the throat and lungs. A certain cure for Consumption in first stages, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use at once. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Sold by dealers everywhere. Large bottles 25 cents and 50 cents.

TOWER'S FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER
The Best Saddle Coat

Keeps both rider and saddle perfectly dry in the hardest storms. Substitutes will disappoint. Ask for Tower's Fish Brand Pommel Slicker. It is entirely new. If not for sale in your town, write for catalogue to A. J. TOWER, Boston, Mass.

W. L. DOUGLAS \$3 & \$5 SHOES
MADE IN U.S.A.
Worth \$4 to \$6 compared with other makes.

A Skin of Beauty is a Joy Forever.
DR. T. F. LEE'S COSMETIC CREAM, OR MAGICAL BEAUTIFIER.

DR. BULL'S COUGH SYRUP
Cures a Cough or Cold at once. Coughs, Croup, Whooping Cough, Hoarseness, Whooping Cough, and all other ailments of the throat and lungs.

Ely's Cream Balm
WILL CURE
GATARRH

FOR 14 CENTS
We wish to sell this year's crop of the most valuable and profitable of all crops, the **Million Dollar Potato**.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought

SMALLPOX DISTRIBUTORS.

How the Germ is Nurtured and the Disease is Spread.
It would seem that people will never learn to be careful. The recent alarming spread of that dire epidemic, smallpox, throughout different sections of the country has been traced by physicians and sanitarians in many instances directly to the moldy and rotting layers of paper and paste which cover the walls of many houses. The practice of laying layer after layer of paper on a wall, using common floor paste, is especially calculated to create homes for disease germs. People could not do more to effect such a result if they tried. The rotting vegetable matter affords caves from which are ready to dart forth the infection at every opportunity. There is no excuse for this practice, as walls and ceilings can be coated with a pure, clean and sanitary material like Alabastine, for instance, at no greater expense. Alabastine is a rock-based cement, which incorporates itself with the wall or ceiling. It is easily applied, comes ready to mix with cold water, requires no washing or scraping before renewing or retinting, is beautiful, long-lasting and safe.

For walls that have been infected nothing is equal to Alabastine as a disinfectant to render them pure and clean and the rooms once more habitable.

Buried Battle Flags.
In connection with the story of the British flag said to be buried at Pretoria, it is perhaps worth mentioning that in the middle of the last century it was no unusual occurrence for the "tattered or 'wounded' colors, as they were quaintly styled, to be interred. In a North Country paper of May 31, 1793, there is the following passage: "The old colors of the Twenty-fifth Regiment of Foot, Lord George Lennox's" (now the King's Own Borderers), "quartered at Newenstone-upon-Tyne, being much wounded in Germany, particularly at the glorious and ever-memorable battle of Minden, were buried with military honors."

Libby's Luncheon M. etc.
From point of economy of purse, fire and time, Libby's Luncheon Meats appeal to every housekeeper. They save an entire day's cooking and give the greatest satisfaction.

They are always ready when you want them and are cooked and deliciously seasoned. All you have to do is to serve. There are more than thirty varieties put up in convenient size opening cans. A neat little book called "How to Make Good Things to Eat," giving more than 100 recipes for preparing Libby's Luncheon meats will be mailed free to all who write for it to Libby, McNeill & Libby, Chicago.

It Didn't Burn.
Boston Matron—My love, you should study domestic as well as political economy, for in the exigencies of mundane existence no seer can prognosticate the future. You have already disbursed all of the present year's uncle gave you.

Small Daughter—I know, mother, but the money was all in new coins, and the designs are so inartistic that I disliked to retain them in my possession. —New York Weekly.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured.
By local application, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional treatment. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube becomes inflamed, the hearing is lost. When this tube is inflamed, the hearing is lost. When this tube is inflamed, the hearing is lost.

What Do the Children Drink?
DON'T give them tea or coffee. Have them drink the new food called GRAIN-O. It is delicious and nourishing, and takes the place of coffee. The more Grain-O you give the children the more healthy they will be. It is made of pure grains, and when properly prepared tastes like the choice grades of coffee, but costs about 1/4 as much. All grocers sell it. Use at once.

Cold Comfort.
Mr. Shimpure—To—to tell the truth, I am a—little afraid to—to ask your father for your hand.

Coughing Leads to Consumption.
Kemp's Balsam will stop the cough at once. Go to your druggist to-day and get a sample bottle free. Sold in 25 and 50 cent bottles. Go at once; delays are dangerous.

Demoralizing Women.
He—if we buy a house and lot there'll be taxes to pay. She—Nonsense; nobody ever pays taxes. Pa always got out of 'em. —Indianapolis Journal.

The Million Dollar Potato.
It's marvelous. Salzer's catalog tells, so about Rape for cattle, sheep and swine. Costs 25c a ton to grow. Send 5c and this notice today to John A. Salzer, Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., for his big catalog.

A valiant gladiator man is one who thinks he can remember all his wife has told him to try every day because he has done it once.

GRAIN TRADE'S GAIN.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT ISSUES HISTORY OF VAST TRAFFIC.

New Routes for Shipments—Wheat and Flour Diverted from Lake Michigan to Lake Superior Ports and from Eastern to Southern Seaboard.

"The Grain Trade of the United States" is the title of a monograph just published by the treasury bureau of statistics as the first of a series of studies upon the production and transportation of the great staples and upon the internal commerce of the country. The article points out the immense increase in the agricultural production of the country, the rapid and continuous westward shifting of the area of population and the changes in the routes by which western grain reaches the eastern consumers and the European markets. The development of the grain production and trade is traced from colonial times to the opening up of the Mississippi route by the purchase of Louisiana, when the four great rivers of the Mississippi descended the Mississippi and New Orleans shipped grain to New York and Boston.

After the completion of the Erie canal in 1825 and the settling of the Lake Michigan territory, the great bulk of the western grain traffic moved eastward over the lakes and the canal, and New York became the great grain-shipping port of the country. The discussion shows how from Chicago a network of railways radiated to all points and acted as tributaries to the lakes, and later how the unified and amalgamated railways competed with the lakes for the east-bound freight. The traffic in corn and wheat was diverted from the lakes to the railroads, and while the lakes regained part of this lost traffic later, the Erie canal was unable to compete with the railroads from Buffalo, and grain which formerly reached tidewater at New York is now largely diverted to Philadelphia, Baltimore and more southerly ports.

Two New Grain Routes.
The monograph also presents what appear as the two most recent developments of the grain trade of the United States: Firstly, the partial diversion of the wheat and flour trade from Lake Michigan to Lake Superior ports and the rise of a great milling industry at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior; secondly, the increased movement of grain, and notably of corn, to the great ports, partly by direct rail, and partly by rail from St. Louis and nearby points, and to an ever-growing extent by direct rail routes from cities in the southwestern corn belt.

The statistics contained in this report throw light upon the present grain (and more especially wheat) situation of the United States. They show that the production of grain is increasing with great rapidity, that both the production and exportation of corn are assuming a greater volume and that a constantly growing portion of our wheat is exported in the form of flour. During the last twenty years the amount of wheat produced has increased from 808,000,000 to 1,924,000,000 bushels, an increase of 122 per cent, while the exports of this cereal increased from 16,000,000 to 177,000,000 bushels, or over 1,000 per cent. During the same period our production of wheat increased from 152,000,000 to 675,000,000 bushels, a gain of 344 per cent, while our exports increased from 12,6 to 222,6 millions of bushels, or almost eighteenfold, and our net exports of this grain increased at a still more rapid rate.

The United States Lead.
The year 1888 shows the United States to be easily the first wheat-producing country of the world, our production amounting to 675,000,000 bushels, or nearly one-fourth (23.4 per cent) of that of the whole world. Russia (about European and Asiatic) is second with 17.3 per cent; then France with 12.9 per cent; British India with 8.4 per cent, and Austria-Hungary with 3.3 per cent. Our pre-eminence in wheat production is largely due to our immense tracts of available land, and our admirable transportation facilities, the remarkable system of handling the grain, both physically and commercially, and the exceedingly low freight rates, which obtain on our railroads and lakes.

The Political Aspects.
New York has 9,321 officials on the payroll. The Empire State has fifty lawyers in its Senate and 350 in the Assembly. The American Political League, a new organization, will hold a national convention in Boston July 4.

Felix McWhirter, of Indianapolis, has resigned as treasurer of the Indiana State prohibition committee.

Maryland has about 45,000 voters registered as illiterate, of whom 18,500 are white and 26,500 are colored.

Congressmen and Senators have 15,000,000 packages of seeds to distribute among their rural constituents.

The Mississippi Legislature has passed a law forbidding the sale of cocaine except when prescribed by a physician.

The Democratic, Silver Republican and Populist committees of Iowa have declared for a union of all silver forces in the State.

A bill is before the Maryland Legislature asking that the rigorous provisions of the Sunday law be modified in its relation to Baltimore.

The Massachusetts House of Representatives has passed a bill providing for the use of reformed spelling in the public documents of the State.

The Italian Union Republican Club of Philadelphia has had the club city in subscribing \$200 toward Philadelphia's national convention fund.

Objection was made to the "Citizens' ticket for local officers in Chester County, Pennsylvania, on the ground that it was nominated on Sunday and so was illegal.

Jonathan G. Leinbach, of Reading, Pa., claims to be the first delegate to the next Republican convention. He was chosen last year to represent the Berks-Lehigh district.

Spring Medicine

There's no season when good medicine is so much needed as in spring, and there's no medicine which does so much good in Spring as Hood's Sarsaparilla. In fact, Spring Medicine is another name for Hood's Sarsaparilla. Do not delay taking it. Don't put it off till your health tone gets too low to be lifted.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Will give you a good appetite, purify and enrich your blood, overcome that tired feeling, give you mental and digestive strength and steady nerves. Be sure to ask for HOOD'S, and be sure that you get Hood's, the best medicine money can buy. Get a bottle TO-DAY. All druggists. Price \$1.

A Practical American Mother.

An amusing story showing how practical are our cousins is going about in Washington. A young diplomat has lately appeared to pay considerable attention to a beautiful debutante. The lady has a mother whose name in fashionable New York inevitably suggests cottons and the leading thereof. The eager swain's ardor was, it is said, considerably damped the other day, when, on an indirect reference to his intentions regarding the daughter, the mother cut short his panegyric with, "Well, Mr. , she would be a very expensive young woman to support." —London Leader.

BEAUTY IS BLOOD DEEP

Pure, Healthy Blood Means Beautiful Complexion.
Intestinal Microbes Poison the Blood When the Bowels are Constipated—Drive Them Out by Taking the Liver-Laxative.

"Beauty is skin deep." That is wrong. Beauty is blood deep. A person constipated, with a lazy liver, bilious blood, dyspeptic stomach, has pimples and liver spots and a sallow complexion. No one with a furred tongue, a bad breath, a jaundiced eye, can be beautiful, no matter how perfect are form and features. To be beautiful, to become beautiful or to remain beautiful, the blood must be kept pure and clean, free from bile, microbes, disease germs, and the liver must be prevented from storing up poisons. They never grip nor constipate, but make the liver live, prevent sour stomach, kill disease germs, tone up the bowels, purify the blood, and make all things right in the system. They are beauty comes of itself and it stays.

Buy and try Cascarets to-day. It's what they do not want we say they do, that will please you. All druggists 10c, 25c, 50c or mailed for price. Send for booklet and free sample of Cascarets. Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago, Montreal, Can., or New York.

A Dwarf Queen.
Probably the smallest monarch in the world reigns over the Hindu vassal state of Bhopal, and governs a people of more than a million souls. This dwarf is a woman, Djlhan-Begum by name, but although she is about fifty years old she does not appear larger than a child of ten. Her diminutive size does not prevent her, however, from holding the reins of government with a firm hand, and in her realm quiet and order are supreme.

You Can Get Allen's Foot-Ease FREE.
Write today to Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y., for a FREE sample of Allen's Foot-Ease powder to slake into your shoes. It cures tired, swelling, damp, sore, itching feet. It makes you feel like a new man. A certain cure for Corns and bunions. All druggists and shoe stores sell it. 25 cents.

May Get Some More.
President Kruger's ultimatum was the first that had ever been received by Great Britain.

Lane's Family Medicine
Moves the bowels each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary. Acts gently on the liver and kidneys. Cures sick headache. Price 25 and 50c.

To get the good out of the years, we must learn how to live each hour well.

Pain's Remedy for Catarrh is the best medicine for that disease I have ever used.—L. C. Johnston, Iola, Texas, June 24, 1891.

The man robs others who does not make the best of himself.

A Venerable Tree.
The town of Kos, the capital of the small Turkish island of that name lying off the coast of Asia Minor, possesses the oldest tree in the world. Under its shade Hippocrates inculcated his disciples in his methods and views concerning the healing art 2,000 years ago. Tradition carries the age of the tree back to the time of Aesculapius (of whom Hippocrates was a lineal descendant), which would add some 400 years to its age. A great part of the trunk is built round, and there is a fountain known as Hippocrates' fountain. The circumference of the trunk is thirty feet, and there are two main lower branches, which are supported by masonry columns.

Try Grain-O! Try Grain-O!
Ask your Grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it like it. GRAIN-O has that rich and brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. 1/4 the price of coffee. 15c and 25c per package. Sold by all grocers.

Immense Match Factory.
The largest match factory is in Austria, and each year it uses 22,000 pounds of phosphorus, turns out 2,500,000,000 matches, and for the boxes 160,000 feet of wood.



The above illustration shows one of the mammoth buildings occupied by the great Match Order House of the John M. Smyth Company of Chicago.

For one-third of a century this company has been in business. Beginning in a small way, they supplied their neighbors in the near-by towns, each year widening their field. They are now selling merchandise direct to the consumer at wholesale prices throughout the United States. Some years ago they began supplying their customers with an illustrated catalogue. As the business expanded they were obliged to increase the size of this catalogue, until to-day it exceeds 1,000 illustrated pages, quoting the lowest wholesale prices on everything to Eat, Wear and Use. By a superior process of color photography they illustrate many of their goods in natural colors, bringing out the rich color value of curtains, carpets, draperies, and the latest designs in wall paper, etc., thus enabling the customer hundreds of miles distant to select goods at his own residence, knowing by the description, illustration, and price the class of goods he may expect.

This feature of their business is becoming more and more popular each year, for it not only saves long and tiresome railroad journeys but is a great time saver and leaves out the profit of the jobbing house, the retailer, the commercial traveler, the general agent, the sub-agent, and thus eliminates from one to four profits, saving this amount for the consumer. In short, it is a great wholesale store brought to the home. The mammoth catalogue referred to is a 20th century dictionary of economy.

The illustration below shows the recent building added to this great enterprise.

The success of this company seems incredible, considering the fact that they have advertised so little. Their spirit of fairness

and industry is the secret of this wonderful success. The quantity of goods they require in some lines enables them to handle large loads of merchandise secured at the lowest possible cost and freight rate.

When goods in the rough are coming from the mills and factories in the East, the Lake

steamers are pressed into service at a freight expense which is but little in advance of the iron ore rates.

Their references are: Any bank or express company, or any man, woman or child.

JOHN M. SMYTH CO., 1601 Madison St., CHICAGO, ILL.

Order by this No. 200 R.

This High-Grade \$2.65 GUITAR is only \$2.65

The top is made of white calico. Has four large round holes. The best American-made guitar. It is a guitar of the highest quality. It is a guitar of the highest quality. It is a guitar of the highest quality.

FOR 50 CENTS we will send you a copy of our new book, "The Guitar." It is a book of the highest quality. It is a book of the highest quality. It is a book of the highest quality.

JOHN M. SMYTH CO., 1601 Madison St., CHICAGO, ILL.

Order by this No. 200 R.

WANTED Apple Loops or Lumina and specifications. E. C. AYERS & CO. Saw Manufacturers, Indianapolis, Ind.

DEPOSY NEW DISCOVERY, gives relief from all kinds of rheumatism, neuralgia, etc. It is a new discovery. It is a new discovery. It is a new discovery.

JOHN M. SMYTH CO., 1601 Madison St., CHICAGO, ILL.

Female Doctors in Russian Army.
Russian military authorities having lately appointed three women doctors as junior medical officers in the Russian army, the Czar's army becomes the only one in Europe that can boast of female medical officers.

Our Nation's Wealth.
The material wealth and strength of our nation is in iron, the most useful of all metals, just as the wealth of a human being lies in a useful stomach. If you have overworked yours, try Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. It will relieve the clogged bowels, improve the appetite and cure constipation, dyspepsia and biliousness.

Two fruit jar factories at Fairmount, Ind., now use blowing machines. Herebefore the work has been done by hand blowers.

To Cure a Cold in One Day
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box.

A giant among giants is not aware of his own size.

Wine's Soothing Syrup for Children
Soothing Syrup for Children. Suffering children, the syrup reduces inflammation, cures pain, cures colds. 5 cents a bottle.

Working Women

are invited to write to Mrs. Pinkham for free advice about their health. Mrs. Pinkham is a woman.

If you have painful periods, backaches or any of the more serious ills of women, write to Mrs. Pinkham; she has helped multitudes. Your letter will be sacredly confidential.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is known wherever the English language is spoken.

Nothing else can possibly be so sure to help suffering women. No other medicine has helped so many.

Remember this when something else is suggested.

Mrs. Pinkham's address is Lynn, Mass.

Her helping hand is always outstretched to suffering women.

NOT the CHEAPEST BUT the BEST

BUGGY our factory can build for the lowest price. We have a large stock of buggies on hand. We have a large stock of buggies on hand. We have a large stock of buggies on hand.

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JOHN M. SMYTH CO., 1601 Madison St., CHICAGO, ILL.

Libby's Luncheons

Substantial Meat Foods
cooked just right, seasoned deliciously, ready to use for lunches and suppers, and convenient at all times.

DEVILED HAM POTTED HAM
BEEF and TONGUE VEAL LOAF
COTTAGE LOAF COTTAGE BEEF
COTTAGE HEAD CHEESE

and twenty more varieties. New booklet tells all about them. Sent free—"How to Make Good Things to Eat."
Libby, McNeill & Libby
CHICAGO

SALZER'S 3 EARED CORN

Salzer's 3 Eared Corn is the best corn growing in 1899. It is a new variety. It is a new variety. It is a new variety.

JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO. LA CROSSE, WIS.

Excursion Rates
to Western (Portland and San Francisco) and to the East (New York and Boston) are now in effect. The rates are very low. The rates are very low. The rates are very low.

JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO. LA CROSSE, WIS.

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JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO. LA CROSSE, WIS.

Excursion Rates

WHAT OF THAT? Tired! Well, what of that? Didst fancy life was spent on beds of ease, Fluttering the rose leaves scattered by the breeze? Come, rouse thee! Work while it is called to-day! Coward, arise! Go forth upon thy way!

Lonely! And what of that? Some must be lonely! 'Tis not given to all To feel a heart responsive rise and fall, To blend another life into its own. Work must be done in loneliness. Work on.

Darkest! Well, and what of that? Didst fondly dream the sun would never set? Dost fear to lose thy way? Take courage yet! Learn thou to walk by faith and not by sight; Thy steps will guided be, and guided right.

Hard! Well, and what of that? Didst fancy life one summer holiday? With lessons none to learn, and naught but play? Go, get thee to thy task! Conquer or die! It must be learned! Learn it then patiently.

No help! Nay, it's not so! Though human help be far, thy God is nigh. Who feeds the ravens, hears his child cry, He's near thee, whereso'er thy foot-steps roam, And He will guide thee, light thee, help thee home.

DR. DOVLAND'S PATIENT

BY HELEN FORREST GRAVES.

"Doctor, he is determined not to get well!"

"Determined, eh?"

Doctor Doviland uttered a low, meditative whistle as he stood with his hands in his pockets, apparently intently occupied in scanning the pattern of the tessellated marble floor in the vestibule.

It was a pretty Gothic cottage, a mile or so out of town, with a terraced lawn with a tiny circular fountain, all fringed with water-lilies, and a great walnut tree, whose drooping boughs formed a sort of natural tent above a rustic seat; while in the deep veranda canyons of exotics tossed crests of pearl and crimson to and fro in the sweet-scented summer wind.

Mrs. Dithrope, a little rose-complexioned woman, with shady brown eyes, hair like the satin shell of a chestnut, and a sort of mouth red, and curved, and dimpled—that suggests an over-ripe strawberry in the woodland dale, a troubled look at Doctor Doviland in a troubled way. Doctor Doviland looked at the floor.

"Determined to die, is he?" said the doctor, rubbing his nose. "Wouldn't he sit up a little yesterday, according to my directions?"

"No, doctor," sighed the lady.

"Nor eat a little chicken and wine jelly?"

"No," with tears glittering in her shady hazel eyes—"not a mouthful of anything."

"He's an obstinate donkey," cried out Doctor Doviland, impatiently. "At least," as he marked the effect his unpremeditated words produced, "he is a very opinionated person. I'll go to him at once."

And the doctor sprang up stairs two steps at a time, breathing very short and fast, as his fashion was when much excited.

The room was darkened; the lozenge-shaped casements tightly closed. Not a breath of sweet summer air stirred the emerald-clothes of the atmosphere of the apartment; not a cheerful sound broke the brooding silence; and for a minute or two, Doctor Doviland's unaccustomed eyes could scarcely penetrate the artificial dusk sufficiently to perceive a yellow, unshaven face lying among a wilderness of ruffled pillows and two restless hands moving over the coverlet.

"Well, Mr. Dithrope," said the physician, cheerfully, "how do you find yourself this morning?"

"Very poorly—very poorly indeed," groaned the patient.

"No better, eh?"

"Doctor," sighed Mr. Dithrope, "I dare say you mean well; but it's mistaken kindness on your part to delude me with further hopes. I know all ready that I cannot get well."

"You are convinced of that?" said the doctor, thoughtfully, stroking his chin, as he sat down in an easy-chair beside the bed.

"Eternally so, Doctor Doviland."

The doctor was silent for some seconds; then he suddenly burst out:

"Dithrope, my good fellow, I'm glad you have discovered this sad state of things for yourself. It is one of the most disagreeable parts of our profession to be compelled to tell people that there is no hope for them."

Mr. Dithrope raised his head rather apprehensively from the pillows.

"You agree with me, then, doctor, in the diagnosis?" said he, faintly.

"I am compelled to do so," said Doctor Doviland, solemnly. "You and I are both men of sense, Dithrope. There is no use in longer continuing the false of medicines, diet and prescriptions."

And with his cane, the doctor whisked two or three vials off the stand up on the carpet as he spoke.

"I—I am not sure but that the tonic might strengthen me a little," remonstrated the patient, wincing somewhat at the clink and crash of breaking glass.

"What is the use of artificial stimulants?" brusquely demanded the doctor. "No, no, Dithrope, leave Nature to herself. If you must die, you must— and all the doctors in the pharmacopoeia will not postpone the fatal moment. In the meanwhile, I will go and break the news to your poor wife—widow, I may as well say."

And without waiting for further argu-

ment, Doctor Doviland hurried away.

As he descended the stairs, Mrs. Dithrope glided out of the pretty little blue and gold reception-room on the left, and stood confronting him.

"Well, doctor, what do you think?" she eagerly questioned.

"I think, madam," said the doctor, balancing both thumbs in the armholes of his vest, "that I shall let him die!"

"Because," added the disciple of Galen, with a sly twinkle in his merry blue eyes, "he is determined to die whether or not, and a man always lives longer for having his own way."

"I don't comprehend your meaning at all, doctor," said Mrs. Dithrope, with tears in her eyes and a piteous quaver in her voice.

"Allow me to explain it to you," said the doctor, taking her hand, and contritely leading her back into the blue-and-gold reception room; "and I believe I can make you agree with me, that he had better die and be done with it."

Mr. Ebenezer Dithrope's mind grew curiously morbid and distorted under the action of a disease that was more mental than physical. He lay among his pillows, not altogether ill-pleased with the prestige that attended him as a dying man, although, if he had thought the catastrophe to be immediately impending, he might have seen matters in a different light; and there were times when he wished people wouldn't agree so implicitly with him when he sang dolorous changes on the old strain:

"When I am gone—when I am gone!"

A little timely contradiction had been fuel to the flame; but it was all withdrawn. Nobody dissented from him now—not even his wife.

It was toward sunset, on the evening of the third day from that on which Doctor Doviland had acquired in his melancholy views, when he started from a brief dose, at the sound of voices in an adjoining apartment.

"All to be left to the widow, eh?" said a cheery accent. "Oh, Charley, what a lucky thing for you! You have always loved her?"

"Of course I have!" returned a voice which Dithrope recognized as that of his chief's cousin, Charles Castleton.

"Dithrope's a good fellow enough, and I haven't a word against him personally; but he never was half good enough for Agnes!"

"A wealthy widow?" musingly repeated Lucy Castleton. "Why, Charley, it would set you up in life."

"I shall propose as soon as the old fellow is well underground," said Castleton, gravely.

Here Mr. Dithrope bounced in bed to make sure it was a darning blanket over him, instead of soles of black walnut.

"And," went on the heartless young miscreant, "she'll have me, of course."

"Aggie always liked you," interjected Miss Lucy.

"The devil she did!" muttered Mr. Dithrope, giving another spasmodic jerk.

"I shall take her to Europe," said Charley, in the slow, meditative way wherein one discusses the bright possibilities of one's future. "She has had but a dismal time of it lately, brooding over Dithrope, and bawling his head with cologne and bay-rum. Now darling! I won't enact the selfish grand mogul! We'll keep this cottage for a summer residence. It will do well enough with a little alteration—a conservatory thrown out at the south end of the drawing-room, and a library at the back. I shall sell off the furniture at auction, and—"

"You will get out of this, if you please, at once!" roared the voice of the doomed sufferer, and Charley Castleton started to behold Mr. Dithrope standing, tall and spectral, with a sheet wrapped about him, and anger flaming in his eyes. "You may do as you like after I'm dead; but I'm not dead yet!"

And wearied out by perturbation of mind, and the excitement of this unusual effort, he dropped panting into a chair, just as Doctor Doviland entered at an opposite door.

"Well, doctor," cried the doctor, with a low whistle, "I thought you were dying!"

"But I'm not dying!" said Mr. Dithrope, wrathfully, "and I don't intend to die—not just at present at all events!"

"Bravo!" cried the doctor. "I would not, if I were you!"

And Ebenezer Dithrope kept his word. He got well at once. Doctor Doviland gravely protested it was the most wonderful and speedy recovery he had ever witnessed.

"Do you know, doctor," said Mr. Dithrope, the first day he drove out with his medical attendant, "I begin to believe—that I wasn't so very sick after all!"

"Have you just found it out?" said the doctor. "Didn't I tell you so long ago?"

"If it hadn't been for that scoundrel Castleton," said Dithrope, "I should have died in good earnest!"

"Possibly," said Doctor Doviland. "The mind sways the body powerfully. But that scoundrel Castleton, as you call him, was nothing more nor less than a brisk dose of medicine, administered for your relief!"

"Eh!" cried Dithrope, pricking up his ears. "Then he wasn't in love with Agnes, after all?"

"He is to be married to a lovely young Philadelphia heiress next week," said the doctor. "It was all a plot of ours to cure you!"

"And it has succeeded," said Dithrope, after a few minutes of meditation. "But I say, doctor, I shall never give you such another chance."

"I hope you will not," said Doctor Doviland, laughing.

Chinese Women.

The better class of Chinese women have at least the natural degree of curiosity, while not wanting in friendly attentions. An English lady says of them:

"The women—look around and beg me to take off my gloves and my hat, that they may see how my hair is done, and the color of my hands. Then some old woman is sure to squeeze my feet, to see if there is really a foot filling up all these big boots. They are very friendly and bring out chairs and benches before their cottage doors, and beg us to sit down, and offer us tea, or, if they have not got that ready, hot water."

NEW EVENING WRAPS

THERE SEEM TO BE SOME VERY NOVEL NOTIONS.

The Layer-on-Layer Design Is No Longer the Basis on Which All Garments of This Sort Are Constructed—Cloak with Skirts Turned Up.

New York correspondence: IN evening wraps there are several brand new notions. Some of them are not revivals but seem to have sprung from the ingenious brains of the designers. For several seasons the layer-on-layer design has been the basis of all new sorts, but this year the cloak is more often divided into panels, a style more becoming to the average figure and lending itself to long success with the very latest cry, however, is a belted long cloak with its skirts turned up to fit under the edge of the shoulder yoke or drapery, thus making a bag all around that serves for a pocket. The idea is absolutely new, and its variations are almost endless.



FROM THESE SUMMER FLUFFRIES MAY SPRING.

Besides, the cloak is cosy and warm, and its big bag of sleeves may serve to hold away slippers, extra gloves and handkerchiefs, the bag that holds the opera glasses or the powder puff. A very pretty model of this sort appears here. The very tall woman realizes that a long princess cloak clinging all the way down may make her like a bean pole. To such a figure the sleeved cloak is a blessing. Very baggy sleeves that are hardly more than bunches of drapery escape below the shoulder scarfing or Antoinette hood folds that mark the edge of the yoke. Such fullness only emphasizes the slenderness of the sweeping outline in the rest.

The materials in the example sketched were white broadcloth, white satin brocade in pink and green, and white lace. The variety of materials in new wraps is greater than is usual. Combinations of rich stuffs appear in nearly all the swag cloaks. White cloth, bevelled with lace or with applique of tulle silk combine stanningly with chiffon or liberty silk much crinkled and mounted on a foundation of net. In many cases the cloaks that look so light and fluffy are really floating from a foundation of chambray or a lining of tulle.

All cloaks have high collars. It is found that a very high collar that rolls away from the head at its top is less likely to muss the hair and pull down the back locks than is the half-high sort. All cloaks are faced with a view to setting off the collar. White cloth, bevelled with lace or with applique of tulle silk combine stanningly with chiffon or liberty silk much crinkled and mounted on a foundation of net. In many cases the cloaks that look so light and fluffy are really floating from a foundation of chambray or a lining of tulle.

The group of the shorter wraps that is pictured here shows plainly that more is to be got out of an evening wrap than queenly stateliness. If that is desired, then the long sweeping cloak is the medium. But for richness, beauty and elaborations that are characteristically

the row was sketched in tea-colored satin-finished cloth embroidered in pale green, with yoke of smocked white chiffon. Below this the puffing was of plain cloth. The last model had a cape portion of figured violet velvet, with ruffles of a lighter shade of violet chiffon and with streamers to match. With lighter materials and without protective interlining, these general fashions are likely to hold for some time. Summer evening fluffries will, in many instances, be traceable to these late winter fancies.

While skirt and bodice to match have indorsement from elaborate dressers, the separate waist is still stylish for certain uses. It probably always will be liked for wear at theater and table. For these waists there are styles enough, goodness knows, and variations on styles, but just now material is the main point. Taffeta showing lines of hemstitching, and silk and satin stenciled out in designs of varying elaborateness, the openings often corded around the edges, or finished with what looks like buttonhole stitch, are very pretty. Tucked taffeta with interlining of lace, and silk muslin with rows of puffings separated by lines of corded stichings, these are some of the many elaborate arrangements. In general, the lines of the figure are followed pretty closely, but there are no darts. Fronts are all straight, and belts are drawn very low.

The yoke is not displaced. It appears in all depths, either set over the bodice, that is, its edge overlapping the material of the bodice—or set under the cut-out edge. These yokes very often continue their line over the shoulder. Where they do not, the shoulders usually take on squareness from tucking, puffery or other

trimming at the top. Even when the skirt is perfectly plain at the top the shoulders are built out square. Fashionable folk have not yet allowed that narrow, nipped look to come in that marked the last era of plain sleeves. Many separate bodices fasten invisibly at the side or under some tuckery in front that is indicated at each side so it has no special significance. Others fasten frankly at the side, the opening running from the shoulder to the front of the belt usually. Another sort fastens down the front. These usually are turned away at the throat in pretty revers that expose the dicky yoke. In some cases there is a front panel or waistcoat piece let in, and the bodice fastens at one side of this. Very often the yoke has a prolongation in front that reaches to the belt and under the skirt. The fastening is arranged. Of all very few truly expose buttons.

Where attached tucked and lace insertion materials are so easily applied to waists, there is some distinction about a bodice so trimmed that it is evident the tucking or other elaboration was done in the process of making the garment. Such show lines of puffing or of insertion that follow the curving of the body, or display tucks of different size in different parts of the garment. It is not safe to wear a ready-made bodice without having it altered to fit, because perfect fit is required. The chief sign of the perfect bodice is a flat back that draws the shoulders back not only because it pulls tight from shoulder to shoulder, but because it pulls firmly from the nape of the neck to the belt line.

Copyright, 1900.

An Engagement on the Bumpers.

"Hello, Pshucks," exclaimed the man in the light-brown overcoat and patent leather shoes, who was pacing up and



EIGHT OF A THOUSAND SORTS.

feminine, the more fanciful short wraps are preferred. There are many sorts. Some are cut in long points front and back, and are slashed at the sides so the arms can escape. This is a very convenient style. Others that follow the still popular fashion of sweeping length at the back and a rounding up of the neck fastening in front, are finished in front with long scarfs to fill completely the space that otherwise might be open. The cloak of the first design is sometimes elaborated to half length by a deep flounce flowing from under the big sleeve. This flounce sets out over the skirt gracefully. Some of the handsomest cloaks of the season are all black, and the automobile in many variations is adapted to evening wear with excellent results.

As to the materials of this quarter, the first had white cloth in the sleeves, and the yoke the white cloth was edged with cream lace. Shoulder drapery and streamers were black panne velvet. Next to this is put a handsome combination of corn-colored liberty satin and white satin embroidered in gilt. The third in

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

It has been wisely decided not to attempt to run the Paris exposition without the aid of Mrs. Potter Palmer.

In England, "taking the Queen's shilling," or enlisting, has been heretofore regarded as almost next to going to the poorhouse.

When a murderer on the gallows declares that hanging does not check homicide, as did James K. Brown in Jersey City, it must at least be accepted as disinterested expert testimony.

An old man wants to marry a young girl. Relatives appeal to the courts to stop it. Now if every man had to satisfy his family before he perpetrated matrimony, how many marriages would there be in the year?

In 1895 there were 1,030 savings banks in the United States, and the deposits in them amounted to \$1,840,000,000. In 1899 there were 1,412 savings banks in the United States and their deposits were \$2,401,000,000.

Writing on the decline of the French language, M. Jean Finot points out that at the end of the last century French was the language spoken by the greatest number of civilized people, whereas now it stands fourth. English is spoken by 116,000,000, Russian by 85,000,000, German by 80,000,000, and French by 58,000,000.

While the United States is quarantining against the bubonic plague it may be well enough for the Orient to be erecting some barriers against penicillin. The latter seems to be about as deadly in this country as the former is in the Orient.

It is asserted that no two countries in the world make and eat the same kind of bread. In England and America there is the greatest similarity in this respect, but the Englishman never eats bread hot from the oven, nor does he use biscuits made with shortening.

The holding up of Prince Henry of Prussia by Siamese bandits, who robbed him of \$1,000 and a bicycle, sets a bright light of adventure in the eyes of the young man. He will sparkle in his history beyond all his naval exploits, and as a decorating memory is worth the money and the vehicle.

Gout has been produced in hens by an exclusive diet of lean horse meat and water. Man always feels a step nearer Mark Twain's time, when health will be catching instead of sickness, when he manages to give one of the lower animals a disease of his. The scientist that induced gout in hens after alloted alleviated it by a diet of crushed egg shells; but if he aspires to cure human gout in the same manner he has undertaken a task beyond his powers. Abstinence even from a few of the most delightful and gout-producing foods is as much as most practitioners effect in their patients.

Mayor Hart, of Boston, has discovered that the employees of the Municipal Water Department used \$17,000 worth of streetcar tickets during 1899, and has determined to put a stop to such reckless extravagance. The higher employees of the Department have not only used the tickets when riding to and from their residences, but have presented them in payment of the fares of friends, and have freely distributed them for political purposes.

The girls' schools of England have the finest women's fire brigades in the world. Westfield college, at Hampstead, was the first English college for women to make fire practice a prominent feature of school training. Professors of fire were hired to inspect and train the brigades, and the girls learned all the tricks of the profession, from tying firemen's chair knots in ropes, and lowering themselves from top windows, to carrying insensible persons out of burning buildings.

Georges Harmais, the owner of the new dogs' cemetery in Paris, thinks that the enterprise will show a handsome profit from the start. Every year, he figures, twenty thousand dogs die in Paris. At least one-sixth of this number will be buried in the new cemetery, the charge in each case being \$6, so that the total receipts from this source will amount to over \$200,000. In addition, several thousand dollars can be counted on from the sale of monuments, while other amounts will come in from people who wish their dogs' graves kept green.

Man's hatred of being "tossed" by one like unto himself crops out casually in the printing department at Sing Sing. For the last year or so Sing Sing has published the Star of Hope, a very creditable paper, produced entirely by the convicts, and containing some of the noblest sentiments that appear in the current press. Its contents, typographically, has been sent to the man in charge of the printing department, a convict "in" for grand larceny. But that state of affairs has been changed. A printer from outside has been put in charge of the work; not because the present incumbent was incapable of fulfilling his duties, nor because the outsider was better equipped, but because the convicts objected to being ordered around by one of their own number.

One out of every forty of the population in New York City is dependent upon charity according to a writer in Leslie's Weekly. The number of the metropolitan poor is almost equal to the last return of the entire population of the city of Indianapolis, Ind., or to that of the city of Providence,

R. I. It is larger by forty per cent than the war army of the Boer republics. It is nearly as large as the combined inhabitants of the Territory of Oklahoma and the State of Nevada. It is nearly twice as great as the number of people in the State of Wyoming when the last census was taken.

American coal is flowing into the Mediterranean in a swelling stream, cutting a channel for itself which will probably not run dry when the present conditions interrupting its ordinary supply are over. England has hitherto sent it, but now has use for all her product elsewhere. It is not necessary to assume that the present large demand for American coal means that naval preparations adverse to England are being made in the Mediterranean, though that is the view of some Continental military observers. Its most direct interest to Americans is that it opens a practically new market for an important commodity hitherto jealously shut out, and that there is a good chance of the market staying open hereafter.

Belgium desires to encourage matrimony, and at the same time thrift. That country proposes to give every man who is twenty-one years old and pays \$1 a year in taxes one vote; if twenty-five years old and married, two votes; and if he owns real estate or government bonds or savings bank deposits producing an income of \$20 a year, he will have three votes. If it is desirable to increase the population it would be well enough to offer an additional vote for each child.

The armless artist Feln has just died at an advanced age abroad. He could do a number of things without arms that many men with arms are unable to accomplish. He always shaved himself, for one thing, and, presumably, without cutting himself; he wrote a successful play, and he painted a large number of pictures. Sometimes when we see the things that people have accomplished under great difficulties we almost regret our own advantages, although the first thing we should do were to be to lose them would be to try to replace them in some way. The obvious moral of Feln, of course, is that we, lacking his disabilities, should accomplish much more than he; but this is a moral that only the young will meekly accept, and they only because they have to do so. The rest of us merely wonder, and find a few minutes' interest in the contemplation of the phenomenon.

Tests made in Detroit give promise that singing, with some degree of accuracy, may be taught to deaf children. The experiments were made under the direction of the supervisor of music in the public schools. The children were gathered around a piano, resting their hands, and in some cases their arms, upon the instrument. After the instrument had been played for a time the children began to count in correct time with the music, catching the accentuation of beats through the vibration of the wood. Occasionally a child would seem to progress beyond the mere response to time and count aloud with some approximation to the time. When this fact was observed by the teacher, the pupils were told to repeat the words "baby, baby," over and over and at the same time a lullaby was played on the piano. In a short time it was noticed that nearly all the children, with whom the experiment was tried indicated their way with more or less distinctness. Still another experiment was tried by singing the scale into the ear of a boy and playing it on the piano. After a few trials, the pupil was able to sound the notes as well as could many children with unimpaired hearing.

Governor Brady of Alaska proposes the use of electricity as a substitute for the cumbersome fire heated iron used in the branding of seals. He claims that if every female seal was electrically branded with the letters "U. S.," four inches in length and half an inch in width, the pelagic sealers' business would soon become so unprofitable that the question would be settled, for argues the projector of the plan, eighty per cent of the seals illegally killed are females, and the brand would ruin the skin for the use of the prospective furrier. The Interior Department is urged to send a force of men, fully equipped for the work to Alaska and let them take the project in hand. The stockmen of the plains have found electricity to be infinitely more expeditious than the old method, and it would be doubly so with the thin-coated seal. "The branded seals suffer as little from the operation as do quadrupeds," says Governor Brady, "and the introduction of this system will speed the branding, which appears to be the only method by which we can prevent extinction of the species."

The Kentucky Mountaineers.

There are no more strikingly interesting people in America than these isolated mountaineers who make their homes generation after generation among the fastnesses of the eastern section of the "dark and bloody ground." The waves of civilization which swept westward along the St. Lawrence, the Erie Canal, and a dozen other routes seem to have found at this point in the Appalachians an insurmountable barrier and rolled back, leaving the descendants of the pioneers of a century and a half ago with many of the same habits and customs and traditions dear to the hearts of their forefathers.

A man who knows the whole country as a child does his first picture book told me that if any person took the trouble to go through a copy of Shakespeare and pick out all the absolute words he would find nearly all of them in common use among these mountain folk. In their phraseology we find "holp" for "help," "hit" for "it," and other words which, far from being corruptions, are the pure old Anglo-Saxon. Even their ballads are mementoes of ages gone by, and I know of one man who, after riding two hundred miles through the mountains for the purpose, finally picked up, from hearing the women sing them, the full thirteen verses of an old Scotch ballad which proved to be identical with the last recorded in a diary bearing the date 1665.—The International Magazine.

THE JOKERS' BUDGET.

The Vegetable Kingdom.

What can be sadder than a withered nose? The poet sadly asked. And then he learned.

The answer straightway as he found his nose Assailed with perfumes from a cabbage burned.

—Washington Star.

The Worst Yet.

Wife—I wish I could get something to keep the rats from coming into the house.

Husband—Why don't you do your own cooking?

Those Wise Birds.

Miss Trill—I love to hear the birds sing.

Jack Downright (warily)—So do I. They never attempt a piece beyond their ability.

His Profound Ignorance.

"The tallest pole knocks the persimmons."

"Lots you know about the country; if you wait long enough they'll drop."

—Indianapolis Journal.

A Slight Advantage.

"How much pleasanter to shovel snow than to run the lawnmower?"

"Yes; it is too cold for our wives to sit on the porch and boss us."—Chicago Record.

Charging For Gas.

Treetop—Gee, whiz; a dollar for pulling one tooth?

Dentist—Yes; you took gas.

Treetop—How much a thousand do you charge for that?—Harlem Life.

He Was a Cheap Man.

Cholly—And was my present a surprise to your sister, Johnny?

Johnny—Betcher life! She said she never suspected you'd give her anything so cheap.—Brooklyn Life.

Merely One of Many.

"How long did you know your wife before you married her, Grims?"

"Not a minute. Don't know her yet. Never will know her."—Cotton's Weekly.

An Impending Disaster.

George—Auntie, I want to run my railroad train across here.

Auntie—I can't move now, George.

George—All right, auntie; I'll just play there's a great, big fat cow on the track.—Indianapolis Journal.

What Came of It.

Oneman—I'm not in politics any more.

Other—Why not?

Oneman—Haven't any money.

Other—That's what comes of your not being in politics.—Detroit Free Press.

A Misleading Item.

Johnny—Old Mr. Skindint must be an awful generous man.

His Father—Why?

Johnny—The paper says he constantly keeps a good watch on everybody in his employ.—Jeweler's Weekly.

Having Her Way.

"Kiss and let's make up," pleaded the handsome hero.

"No," responded the fair heroine. "I think we'd better make up and then kiss. Time is limited behind the scenes."—Ohio State Journal.

Interviewing a Great Man.

"What," asked the female journalist, "do you consider the greatest achievement of the century?"

"Well," replied the semi-great man, "you about size up to it."—Philadelphia North American.

A Fair Unnecessary.

Tommy—I know now why you wear only one eyeglass.

His Big Sister's Bean—Why?

Tommy—Brother Jack said you ought to see with half an eye that sister doesn't care anything about you.—Jeweler's Weekly.

Pessimism Checked.

"No," he complained. "I have never succeeded in getting anything for nothing! I have always had to strive hard for everything that has come to me."

"What about the mumps you had last winter?" his wife interrupted.—Chicago Times-Herald.

A Test of Popularity.

Nell—I never knew such a popular girl as Maude.

Belle—In what way?

Nell—In every way. When her engagement was announced I didn't hear a single one of the girls want to know what he ever saw in her.—Philadelphia Record.

What He Might Have Been.

"It's queer how people's ambitions change," said the sweet-looking old lady. "When my Willie was a boy he wanted to be a circus performer, and now he is a clergyman."

"Yes," replied the woman who has a reputation for saying things, "and it is often hard to account for these deflections, too. He might have made an excellent horizontal bar artist!"—Chicago Times-Herald.

Fatal Procrastination.

"He asked me to marry him."

"And you accepted him?"

"No. I thought that I was, I asked for time."

"And what did he say?"

"He said he'd give me a year."

"Ah! And what did you say?"

"I saw my mistake. I said two days would be plenty. But he wouldn't hear of it. He said no woman could make up her mind in such a short time. He really insisted upon my taking six months. We finally compromised on thirty days."

"And then?"

"He married that pretty-faced Rhinberling girl the very next week!"

—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Italy gets \$40,000,000 a year from visitors.